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THE
ITALIAN BIOGRAPHY
OF
SIR ROBERT DUDLEY, KNT.

KNOWN IN FLORENTINE HISTORY AS

IL DUCA DI NORTOMBRIA,

UNDER THE DIPLOMA OF FERDINAND II. EMPEROR OF GERMANY,

DATED MARCH 9, 1620.

TO WHICH ARE ADDED,

SOME BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES

OF

DAME ALICE DUDLEY HIS WIFE,

CREATED DUCHESS DUDLEY BY CHARLES I

MAY 23, 1619.

AS ALSO OF THEIR FOUR DAUGHTERS

ALICIA DOUGLASSA, FRANCES, ANNE, AND CATHARINE

2.14973



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CORRIGENDA

Page 13. *for* wife of Sir Philip Sidney *read* mother

62. *for* Henry Frodsham *read* Henry Frodsham

72. *for* 1612 *read* 1613

76. *for* Craig *read* Craick

81. *for* Lord Sidney of Penshurst *read* Lord Henry Sidney

99. *for* £2000 *read* £3000

100. Dugdale says, that the sum Alicia Douglassa gave her mother for charitable uses was £3000.

107. *for* Trentham, com. Salop. *read* Trentham, com. Stafford

THE ITALIAN OR FLORENTINE BIOGRAPHY OF
SIR ROBERT DUDLEY, KT.

FROM the time of Antony Wood to the present day it has been well known, that SIR ROBERT DUDLEY, son of the Earl of Leicester, had in various ways during his abode at Florence applied the powers of his mind and the acquirements of his studies to increase the honour of his Patrons, the Grand Dukes of Tuscany, and the benefit of his adopted country.

The first of the English travellers who make mention of his name as an English Refugee at Florence was an Englishman, a convert to the Church of Rome; the object of whose work, which is anonymous, was to give an account of the English converts residing in Spain, Rome, Florence. The book is entitled, "The English and Spanish Pilgrim." He studiously suppresses his name, but tells us his father died Nov. 30, 1623^a. After mentioning the English converts who were at that time at Rome, he proceeds in his enumeration to the city of Florence, where he says, "there liveth in that city Sir Robert Dudley, who styleth himself Duke of Northumberland, leaving England because he could not enjoy a second wife, his first wife still surviving." The author says, that "this Dudley now enjoyeth his second wife by dispensation from his Holiness, and is in great esteem with the Archduke of Florence, in regard of his art in contriving and fabricating ships and galleys; and hath obtained of the Emperor of Germany to be declared Duke of North-

^a Ant. Wood gives his name James Wadsworth; the full title, "English Spanish Pilgrim, or a new Discovery;" it was printed 1630.

umberland, who hath given him the title already, and the land when he can catch it." (English and Spanish Pilgrim, p. 67, 68.)

The next who speaks of his residence at Florence was, like himself, a man of great abilities, and a military adventurer, the Lord Herbert of Cherbury; his account may bear the same, or nearly the same, date as the former. "I went from Rome, to Florence, where I saw Sir Robert Dudley, who had the title of Earl and Duke of Northumberland given him by the Emperor, and the handsome Mrs. Sudel (Southwell), whom he carried away with him out of England, and was there taken for his wife. I was invited by them to a great feast the night before I went out of town.

"Taking my leave of them both, I prepared for my journey. When I was ready to depart, a messenger came to me and told me, if I would accept the same pension that Sir Robert Dudley had himself, being 2000 ducats per annum, the Duke would entertain me for his service in the war against the Turks. This offer, whether procured by the means of Sir Robert Dudley, Mrs. Sudel, or Signor Loty my ancient friend, I know not. Being thankfully acknowledged by me as a great honour, it was yet refused, my intention being to serve his Excellency in the Low Country war." (Life of Lord Herbert of Cherbury, 3d edition, Dodsley, 1778, p. 106.)

The next English traveller who speaks of Sir Robert during his residence in Italy was the Rev. Dr. Bargrave, Prebendary of Canterbury. Plot, in his History of Oxfordshire, p. 286, quotes his *Ms. Itinerary*. "The Honourable Robert Dudley, of Ch. Ch. Oxon. was made Duke by the Emperor with the title of Northumberland, of which title he fancied himself wrongfully deprived. He contrived many engines and mathematical instruments, not known before, which are now in the possession of the Great Duke

of Tuscany, to whose ancestors he applied himself, in his discontent, and by whom he was succoured and highly valued for his great learning; and with whom his children now remain to this day in wealth and honour, retaining the titles of Northumberland, and Earls of Warwick and Leicester; which titles others say (and perhaps more rightly) were conferred by the Pope, in whose quarrel they were pretended at least to have been lost^b.”

My next extract will be from the celebrated Genealogical work of Imhoff of Nuremberg, 1690. (Imhoff *Regum Pariumque Magnæ Britanniae Historia Genealogica*, p. 206.)

The Author adduces the authority of Sir W. Dugdale for some of his statements. “Dugdale informs us concerning Robert Dudley, that his father, the Earl of Leicester, is said to have declared him, who really was the sole heir of his great family and fortunes, illegitimate; the declaration was made out of affection to and in favour of Lætitia Knowles. We are farther informed, that from early youth his heart was devoted to the study of mathematics, and every thing relating to naval affairs; and when he was only one and twenty years of age, he was invested by Queen Elizabeth with the command of three ships of war, and with them he sailed to the island of Trinidad, where he attacked nine Spanish vessels laden with wine, capturing some and driving the others away. Not long after this, he sailed to that part of the American coast where the river Orinoco falls into the sea, and having discovered an island at the mouth of it, he named it Dudleiana. In the following year, that is, in 1596, he joined the Earl of Essex in his expedition against Cadiz, and shewed such courage, that his commander conferred upon him the rank of Knight. Having acquired in this way a great reputation, he left no stone unturned that

^b They were conferred upon him by the diploma of Ferdinand II. March 9, 1620.

he might rescue himself from the stigma of illegitimacy, and open to himself a pathway to the honours of his forefathers : but having struggled in vain, and having been moreover smitten by an adverse sentence of a court of law, he determined to leave his country; and having obtained from the Crown a licence to travel for three years, he went to Italy, but was recalled at the instigation of his enemies; but not returning, all his lands and estates in England were sequestered. When he left England, he took away with him, dressed as his page, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Robert Southwell, a very beautiful woman, leaving behind him his lawful wife, Alicia daughter of Sir Thomas Leigh, whom Charles I. created Duchess Dudley, May 22, 1644. Sir Robert Dudley afterwards turned papist, and obtained a dispensation from the Pope, and married this Elizabeth Southwell. He fixed his residence in Tuscany, where he was patronized and highly favoured by the Grand Dukes Cosmo II. and his successor Ferdinand II., not only for his skill in civil architecture, but also in the military and naval branches of it; and certainly was the original adviser of making Leghorn, which was no more than a poor and lowly village, a noble city, and a well-fortified port: *auctorque ei extitit ex Liburnensi ignobili vico insignem urbem et portum pulchre munitum ædificandi*: thereupon he was enriched by the Grand Dukes by an annual pension, and built for himself a Palace at Florence. His reputation increased wider and wider; the Emperor Ferdinand II. raised him to the title of Duke by diploma, dated March 9, 1620, and from that time he was recognised and called Duke of Northumberland He reached an advanced age, and died in his villa at Carbello, about three miles from Florence, which had been given him by the Grand Duke, and was buried in St. Pancras Church." Imhoff farther informs us, "that of the children whom he had by Elizabeth Southwell, Charles Dudley

inherited the greatest part of his property, who took the title of Duke of Northumberland, and married a lady of Picardy from the most noble family of the Gauffiers, by whom he had many sons and daughters. Charles died at Florence, and was succeeded in the Dukedom of Northumberland by his eldest son Robert, whom Christina, Queen of Sweden, made her Chamberlain not long before she died.

In giving this long translated extract from Imhoff, I have been led out of the prescribed course of this Memoir, which was to confine it to the Italian or Florentine life and achievements of Sir Robert.

The next authority, like the last, will not be confined to Florentine history, but as it is that of a Florentine writer, it claims the admission of its whole statement. The work it is taken from is entitled, *L' Osservatore Fiorentino*, published at Florence in 1821 by some literary men, and specially giving detailed accounts of the churches, public buildings, and remarkable houses in Florence. The work is in Italian, a sort of periodical, and the following extract is from volume 3. p. 208. It is headed thus,

“PALAZZO DI ROBERTO DUDLEY EMIGRATO INGLESE.”

We are then told, that John Dudley, Earl of Warwick and Leicester, and Duke of Northumberland in the English Peerage, was grandfather of that Robert Dudley, who came to Florence in the beginning of the seventeenth century. That his grandfather was beheaded, for reasons of State, on the 22d of August, 1553. That this Duke of Northumberland was father of another Robert, who became the Earl of Leicester, Queen Elizabeth's favourite, who was the father of our Florentine Duke. That this Robert made a great figure in Queen Elizabeth's reign, and had this his only son, through the favours granted to him by Lætitia^e, daughter of Sir Francis Knollys, in the year 1574.

* This is an intentional or unintentional error. His mother was Lady

Our Robert afterwards left London, disgusted by his treatment at that Court, as also through religious motives, but under the pretence of travelling for three years in Italy. After they had ended, a certain time was assigned to him to return to his country, and when he did not appear, he was outlawed. He had three wives, and with the last, daughter of Sir Robert Southwell, he came to Florence, where he was received at the 'Tuscan Court with demonstrations of great regard, and with all his family was remarkably assisted in their finances by the Grand Duke's generous pensions.

It is added in the *Osservatore Fiorentino*, that it appears from an original Letter of the said Duke of Northumberland, dated August 28, 1638, now in the old Secretary's Office in the Grand Duke's Palace, that in that year he had five sons; Charles, who succeeded to the titles of the family; Ambrose, Anthony, Ferdinand, (who became a Dominican Friar,) and Henry. It is farther said in that letter, that Charles married Mary Magdalen Gauffier, of a noble family in Picardy, and that by this lady he had several sons and daughters. This Charles died at Florence, leaving Robert his eldest son and heir, who became First Chamberlain to Maria Christina, Queen of Sweden, at that time living at Rome.

By reason of the Grand Duke's patronage and pensions, Sir Robert Dudley became wealthy, and in 1613 bought some property of the family of Rucellai, in the parish of St. Pancras, and built upon the site of it the Palace we are now speaking of, but in a style of architecture more heavy than elegant, having two fronts, and facing the two streets near the Lodge of the Tornaquinci. The *Osservatore* farther informs us, that the Grand Duke Cosmo the 11d had for some time conceived the idea of making the Port of Leghorn

Douglas Sheffield, and was born in 1573. His worthless father married Lætitia Knollys in 1576, upon the death of her first husband the Earl of Essex.

more convenient and secure; whereupon (*però*) knowing that the aforesaid Duke of Northumberland, who had now become one of his confidential friends and advisers, possessed great knowledge and ability in matters relating to the sea, he made use of him (*di lui si servi*) in order to execute all those necessary works and improvements (*quei necessari miglioramenti e costurzioui*) which were required. But as to the new fortress at Leghorn, that was designed by *Barnard delle Girandole*. The Mole, or Pier, and Port of Leghorn was planned and executed entirely by the Earl of Warwick, Duke of Northumberland^d.

CONCERNING THE DEATH AND BURIAL OF SIR R. DUDLEY.

It is among the many remarkable things which occur in Sir Robert Dudley's Florentine history, that his place of burial should continue an uncertainty. The antiquary of the present day makes the memorials of the departed, their tombs and monumental inscriptions, special subjects of enquiry and graphic representation. It is therefore in strict accordance with the plan and purposes of the Warwickshire Archaeological Journal, and especially of County Archaeology in general, to endeavour to verify what has been left doubtful as to the time and place of the interment of il Duca di Nortombria, by bringing to bear upon it whatever information is accessible, and can be made available in the way of probability, if not of positive proof.

It may be observed of all persons of Dudley's celebrity, that they are very rarely left without a tomb, and without

^d Sir R. Dudley's Works, as a Civil Engineer, for the benefit of Tuscany, will be again referred to, to prove his title to the praise of these works, plans, and designs.

clear and certain evidence not only of its existence, but of the person or persons who erected it, and of its site, form, date, and all the circumstances of the death and burial.

The author of the *Athenæ* says, that he died at Carbello, three miles from Florence, in a house which the Great Duke of Tuscany permitted him to enjoy *gratis* during his life, in the month of September 1649. Whereupon his body being conveyed to a Nunnery at Boldrone, near to that place, it was there deposited; but whether it hath been since conveyed to the Church of St. Pancras in Florence, wherein his wife Elizabeth had before been buried, and over whose grave he had erected a sumptuous Monument of marble, with intentions to be buried by her, I know not; sure I am, that the body was continuing at Boldrone in 1674, and may perhaps be there still. Now when we are informed by this Author, that he had received the whole article concerning Sir Robert Dudley from Carlo, the second Duca di Nortombria, his son, by letter dated Rome, Oct. 17, 1673, we may be sure that his printed account is correct; and that the body had not been conveyed from Boldrone to St. Pancras at the date of this letter.

In an Italian Manuscript in the Magliabechi Library at Florence, bearing the title of *il Diario de Verzoni*, it is written, "that on the 6th of Sept. 1649, there died at a village near Florence an Englishman, named Robert Lord Duke of Northumberland and Earl of Warwick. He had been settled in Florence many years, having a yearly pension from the reigning Archduke. He had been banished by the King of England, who had taken away his rank and condition as an English subject (*toltoagli lo stato*) for being a good Catholic. He was buried in St. Pancras Church, where his wife had been buried before. He was a man of great worth and goodness (*di gran valore e bontà*), and of very great skill in maritime affairs."

The Abbate Camillo Talchi of Florence, in a letter to Dr. Giuseppe Vivoli of Leghorn, communicated to the writer by the Rev. John Barnabas Maude, M.A. Fellow of Queen's College, Oxford, May 1, 1811, says, that "il Duca de Nortombria fu seppellito in San Pancrazio sua parrocchia in Firenze, ma senza particolare tumulo, l' ebbero bensì particolare la di lui moglie et una figlia alle quali fece vivente le inserzione ivi apposte; e adesso disperse dopo la profanazione di detta chiesa da i Francesi—Restava a sapere se qualche letterato avesse raccolto queste preziose memorie."

"The Duke of Northumberland was buried in the Church of St. Pancras, his parish in Florence, but without any particular tomb. His wife and daughter certainly had a tomb in the Church, for in his lifetime he wrote the lines which were inscribed. But the tomb and inscription were dispersed after the profanation of the Church, when the French invaded Florence in 1798. And we have yet to learn, whether any literary man has been able to collect these precious memorials."

The opinion which my late much-respected, esteemed, and able Friend of Queen's College communicated to me was, that the St. Pancras monument was erected by Sir R. Dudley during his lifetime for himself and family, and that after his death no addition was made either to the monument or the inscription.

But the fact of his interment in St. Pancras is made more doubtful by a foot-note subjoined to the account in *l'Osservatore Fiorentino*: "Si trova in Chiesa di San Panceazio il sepolchro della sua moglie e della sua figlia:" but nothing is said about Dudley. Innhoff says positively that he was buried in St. Pancras: "Vitam ad summam senectutem prorogavit eamque tandem in prædio ab Etruriæ ducibus ipsi donato finivit:" and then distinctly asserts, "Florentiæ in æde S. Pancratii sepultus est."

Having set before the reader the pros and cons upon this controverted point, there will now be submitted to his judgment, or rather to his conjectures, the following extract from *Richa's Notizie Istoriche delle Chiese Fiorentine*. Tom. iii. parte 1^{ra}. p. 324. ed. 1755.

Under the head of San Pancrazio there will be found the following :

“ Eravi pure un arca di marmo, in Ecclesia che posava in terra, inoggi per deposito trasferita ne' sotterranei, e vi riposava il corpo di una Eroina di nostra Fede, che appellasi Anna Soutuel, Duchessa di Nortumbria, la quale con i suoi genitori, in detestazione dell' Eresia del Re Arrigo VIII. si fuggi d'Inghilterra, e venuta a Firenze; quivi costante nella Cattolica Fede si morì, ed al suo sepolcro furono incisi questi divoti versi.”

“ There was formerly in this Church a marble monument upon the floor, but now deposited in the vault, in which reposes the body of an heroic adherent to our faith, called Anna Soutuel, Duchess of Northumberland, who, together with her forefathers, in detestation of the heresy of Henry VIII, fled from England, and came to Florence, and there died firm and constant to the Catholic faith: and upon her tomb the following pious verses were inscribed.”

D . O . M.

Petis seire quid moliar—resolvor donec redeam
Appetis quid fui—Anna Dudhea, Anglo Danoque
Regali stegmate sata—Expetis quæ labilis vite
Comites—Pulehritudo Virginitas, virtus, Religio
O Mortalis Cadueitas! Letho relictis Laribus.

Robertus Dudheus et Elizabeth Southwel
Northumbrorum Warwicensinque Duces

Hæc maestissimi Parentes anno 1629

Mihi filie dulcissimæ posuere

So far no difficulty was found in making the annexed free translation of it, considering it to be an epitaph to the memory of their Florentine daughter by her illegitimate parents, Sir Robert Dudley and Elizabeth Southwell; but the following passage in the inscription (being a continuation of the preceding) defies translation, either as a piece of Latin, or an inscripational statement.

“Disce, time, quid ergo Viator
 “Forma charis virtus ubi nunc Northumbria Princeps
 “Virgo sub hac secum condidit Anna petra.”

It is therefore omitted altogether in the translation.

TO GOD, THE GREATEST AND THE BEST.

What now employs me, do you wish to know?
 Till I return I'm mouldering here below.
 Perhaps you wish my name and rank to trace;
 I once was Anna, of Lord Dudley's race;
 From royal Dane and Norman my descent;
 My days on earth with faithful friends I spent.
 Ask you their names? Religion, Virtue, Truth,
 Were my companions from the dawn of youth;
 And Beauty too, and Purity of mind,
 With Faith unshaken, and a Taste refin'd.
 Short was my span of life—it scarce was day
 When my sun set, and my bed is clay.
 My sorrowing parents bore a Dueal name,
 Northumberland and Warwick, dear to Fame:
 To me their Child belov'd those Parents gave
 Their grief's last proof, an honourable grave.

MDCCXIX.

The unintelligible and omitted lines being left in all their cloudiness to be dispersed by some happier commentator, some notes and observations will be subjoined upon passages in the inscription which seem to require elucidation.

Petis scire quid moliar. "What I may be planning or contriving;" an expression very well suited to Sir Robert Dudley's ardent, restless, and inventive genius; but very unsuitable to the young Lady, and the kind and current of her virtues, as represented in her epitaph.

Anna Dudleæ, Anglo Danoque Regali stegmate sata, (read *stemmate*.) This passage will be sufficiently explained by a reference to the Italian biography of Sir Robert Dudley. Having become Chamberlain to the Arch Duchess Madalena, mother of Cosmo de Medici the Second, Grand Duke of Tuscany, and his guardian during his minority, she prevailed upon her brother Ferdinand the Second, Emperor of Germany, to confer upon Sir Robert Dudley, by diploma, dated March 9, 1620, the titles of Duke of Northumberland and Earl of Warwick; but the Emperor, fearful of giving offence to James the First, (who had an Ambassador at that time at the Court of Ferdinand, John Digby, Earl of Bristol,) is very careful throughout his diploma to make it appear, that in giving these titles he did no more than recognise the rightful descent and actual existence of them, in the person of Sir Robert Dudley; adding this proviso to his declarations of title, that they were to be considered in no other light than as his admissions or acknowledgments of them. He moreover especially ordains, that they were not to be understood or interpreted *in any other sense, or upon any other principle, or with any other intent and purpose*, than that every man in his dominions ought to possess what was his own, and that a Prince and exile ought to be secured in all his just and lawful distinctions of honour throughout the holy Roman empire, and all other provinces and dominions belonging to or connected with the same.

This Imperial diploma settles the descent of these titles upon Sir Robert Dudley's first-born son, (i. e. Elizabeth Southwell's illegitimate, called in the diploma the illustrious

Lord Cosmo, who died before his father,) and upon his other children, priority of birth being duly observed.

It may here be observed, that Sir Robert Dudley had a large progeny by Elizabeth Southwell. Cosmo was the eldest son; Anna, here mentioned in the epitaph, was probably the eldest daughter, both of whom died in Sir Robert's lifetime.

Anglo Danoque Regali stegmate (stemmate) *sata*. Passing over the non-Latin word *stegmate*, and referring it to the hastiness with which Richa took the copy of this inscription in 1755, the words imply, that the descent of Anna, Sir Robert's child by Elizabeth Southwell, might be traced upwards to a royal race. That the pedigree of the young Lady might be referred to the Saxon and the Dane, that is, to Lord Robert Dudley, fifth son of John Duke of Northumberland. For by Act of Parliament 4 and 5 Phil. and Mar. entitled a Bill of Restitution of Sir Ambrose Dudley, (afterwards Earl of Warwick,) of Mary Dudley, (afterwards wife of Sir Philip Sydney of Penshurst,) and of Robert Dudley, (afterwards Earl of Leicester,) children of the Duke of Northumberland, (beheaded Jan. 15, 1551,) were all restored to their blood and nobility; so that according to the view taken in this epitaph, (as it had been before,) by the Emperor Ferdinand II. in his diploma, this Anna was made to share in the honours (whatever they amounted to) which were derived from the beheaded Duke of Northumberland, and from this Parliamentary restitution of rank to his children, Ambrose, Mary, and Robert, (the father of Sir Robert Dudley.)

*“Robertus Dudleus, et Elizabeth Southwell,
Northumbrorum, Varricensiumque Ducēs.”*

Hæc maestissimi Parentes anno 1629, filie duleissimæ posuere.

These words of the inscription fully amount to this, that Robert Dudley and Elizabeth Southwell, Duke and Duchess of Northumberland, Earl and Countess of Warwick, had erected this monument to their daughter's memory^e.

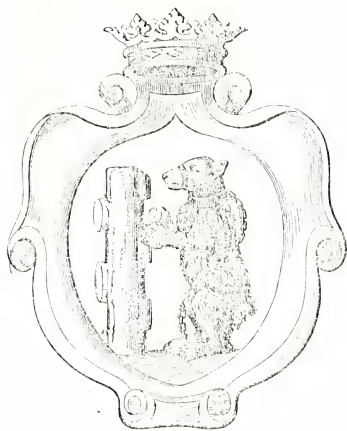
The best commentary upon these titles will be found in the Emperor's diploma, when coupled with the rest of Sir Robert's Florentine or Italian biography.

This inscriptional and monumental enquiry would have been now closed, had it not been for information by letter dated from Florence, Aug. 11, 1852, from the Rev. William Falconer, of Exeter College, Oxford, Rector of Bushey, Herts, who with his elegant classical and exact mathematical attainments, combines a love of archæological research. Speaking of the Church of St. Pancrazio, he says, "that its present façade bears a modern character, but the rest is of the fourteenth or fifteenth century. It is no longer used as a Church, except the Chapel, in which is a copy of the Holy Tomb of Jerusalem. The house which Sir Robert Dudley is said to have inhabited is in the *Vigna nuova*; it is without any sign of having belonged to him, the shield upon it bearing the arms of the ~~Rucellai~~ Rucellai family." He then proceeds: "I remembered very well the monument you mention, and I went immediately to find it out; it is but a small stone, about two or three feet long. There is no inscription, but simply the arms in the most common Italian way, without supporters, crest, or motto. The coronet is as above drawn, and is that of a sort of Marquis's, instead of a Duke's, owing most likely to the ignorance of heraldry, so general in Italy then and always. The stone has not even a name upon it, and is known only by tradition. It is fixed with many others in the wall of a little cloister, and most likely was originally in the Church in which was the epitaph on the *Arca di Marmo of Anna*

^e As to the age of this child Anna Southwell, see the account of the Duke's Florentine descendants hereafter.

Southwell. Perhaps the accompanying shield may have belonged to the Duchess's monument, for no heraldic distinctions are to be relied

on in this country. However that may be, it is called the *husband's* at the present day.



This communication is very suggestive as well as interesting. The coronet, which through ignorance of heraldry is made to bear the semblance of that of a Marquis, may have been intended to be Ducal; as the coronet of a Marquis

it could never have belonged to any branch or individual of the Dudley family. The shield with the bear and ragged staff^g, so universally attached to every thing belonging to a Dudley, leads to the conjecture, that it once was affixed to and adorned some *arca di marmo*, which Richa tells us might have stood upon the floor of the Church, (*che posava in terra.*)

The tradition of the place is, that the shield was meant to be a memorial, or part of some memorial, of the husband, and not the wife; from which it may be reasonably inferred, in the midst of the contradictory assertions which surround this question of Dudley's burial place, that, after all, il Duca had some sort of sepulchral monument in St. Pancras. It is well

^g The picture of the tomb and the inscription of Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, see Dugdale's Warwickshire, p. 329. fol. 1656, proves the devotion of the family to the bear and ragged staff, for they are made to serve for a sort of punctuation instead of commas, colons, and full stops; little bears on all fours being made to walk after each other, whilst three little bears separated by three little ragged staves are made to serve as a full stop at the end of the inscription.

known that he died Sept. 6, 1649, and that the body remained in the Convent of Boldrone in 1674, twenty-five years after his death, for so speaks A. Wood, upon the authority of Duke Carlo, son of the deceased. But passing over this most unaccountable temporary deposit of twenty-five years, it may be asked, when was the body transferred to its resting place (probably an honourable resting place) in St. Pancras Church, and by whom was the transfer made, whether by the family or the State. It is quite clear, from the intelligible part of the inscription preserved by Richa, that the tomb which bore the inscription preserved must have belonged to Anna, Sir Robert Dudley's daughter, and that it was erected to their beloved child by her sorrowing parents. This and this alone can be the import of the words, as far as they are intelligible; and certainly nothing can be found to shew that her tomb was intended to serve as a sort of mausoleum to receive the remains of the Duca and Duchessa at their death.

Chalmers says, at once and without reserve, that the wife of il Duca di Nortumbria was buried in St. Pancras Church under a splendid monument, and he by her side. The Abbate Canillo Talchi and others contradict this, and assert that he was buried in St. Pancras, *ma senza particolare tumulo*, although his wife and daughter had a tomb upon which Sir Robert Dudley wrote an inscription in his lifetime. In the absence of all means of deciding the question, it would be useless to adduce any more of these gratuitous and contradictory allegations of biographers. Suffice it to say, that il Duca di Northumbria was entitled not only to an honourable grave, but an ample record of all the important services he had rendered the Grand Duke of Tuscany. His celebrity as a Philosopher and Statesman, Civil and Military Engineer, Naval Architect, Hydrographer and Geographer, Mathematician and Physician, demanded of the gratitude

of the Tuscans, and the admiration of Italy, the honour of a public funeral, as well as the memorial of a public monument. But if Etruria had chosen to forget its debt of gratitude, it must be remembered that the deceased left five surviving sons; and that Carlo il Duca di Nortumbria and Enrico il Conte di Warwick, could not have failed to bestow sepulchral honours suitable to so eminent a man, and so affectionate a father. For it appears by an entry made in the Arroto, or roll, in the Registration Office at Florence, that these entered into possession of their father's property at Florence, Sept. 2, 1652; that their sisters had formed honourable alliances with the nobility of the land; and that their brothers Ambrose, Anthony, Ferdinand, and Enrico, were alive, to remind all of them of their duty to their father, if the two who were successors to his property in Florence had omitted to do so. We are compelled by this residence of his children upon the scene of their father's services, and some living under the very eye and observation of the Tuscan Prince, to acknowledge their obligation to pay some last tribute, and that of an enduring nature, to the memory of such a father. As children, they must have felt obliged, by the recollection of his Florentine reputation, his devotion to the fame and interests of Tuscany, and specially by their natural love and affection, to rescue from oblivion the existence of such a man and such an exile in the Grand Duke's dominions. Summing up these various considerations, it may be concluded, though without such auxiliary evidence as would be necessary to prove it, that some *Arca di marmo* was at some unknown point of time erected in St. Pancras, either by the country's gratitude, or domestic reverence, worthy of the splendour of his abilities, and the greatness of his achievements; and worthy too of that spirit, which had been so often attested as a statesman by the boldness and wisdom of his counsels; as an author by the extent, variety, and exactness of

his knowledge; as the master of the national works of Tuscany by the greatness of his undertakings, by the *costruzioni et miglioramenti* which he executed for the improvement of commerce and agriculture.

The foregoing considerations, when combined, direct the memorialist to the belief, that this distinguished man was not left without a monument in the Church of St. Pancras. But the discovery, made by the writer's able and accomplished Friend, of a fragmentary stone in what was once the cloister of the Church, and representing what was intended by the sculptor to be a Ducal coronet surmounting the never-failing accompaniment of the Dudleys, alive or dead, on tomb or tower, fabric or fitting up, has greater weight and value in the writer's estimate of it as visible and tangible evidence, to prove the existence of some former *arca di marmo* in honour of the Florentine, or rather Imperial, Duke, than all the sayings and unsayings, all the *gratis dicta* and hearsay statements of all the Duke's biographers put together.

THE GREAT THINGS DONE FOR TUSCANY BY SIR R.
DUDLEY, BUT SUPPRESSED BY NATIVE WRITERS,
THOUGH ACKNOWLEDGED BY OTHERS.

This Paper would be very insufficient, as an illustration of Dudley's inventive genius, engineering skill, and enterprising spirit, if it were to omit or state though imperfectly the things suggested, advised, and accomplished for the Grand Dukes of Tuscany, and the improvement of their dominions. Upon these matters nothing can be more explicit and express than the testimonies of all the English biographers of Sir Robert Dudley. Anthony Wood tells us, "that Sir R. Dudley was a favourite of the great Duke, and the chief instrument which caused him to make Leghorn, which was a

small town, to grow by his endeavours into a great city, as at this day it is acknowledged to be in relation to its fairness and firmness next the sea; and I have heard from some living, that Sir R. Dudley was the chief instrument that caused the Great Duke not only to make it firm, but also a *scala franca*, a free port, Sir R. Dudley settling an English factory there, and drying the fens between that place and Pisa, and inviting to the place many English merchants that were his friends, and so enriched it, that it is now one of the best harbours in Europe, and brings considerable revenues to the Duke." To this Plot adds, "that Dudley contrived many engines and mathematical instruments, not known before, now in the possession of the Great Duke of Tuscany." Kippis, in the *Biographia Britannica*, is much more full and particular. "He displayed at the Court of the Great Duke of Tuscany those great abilities for which he had been so much admired in England; he contrived several methods of improving shipping, introduced new manufactures, excited the merchants to extend their foreign commerce, and, by other services of still greater importance, obtained a high reputation.

"Under the reign of the Grand Duke Ferdinand II. he became still more famous, on account of that great project which he formed, of draining a large morass between Pisa and the sea, and raising Livorno, or L  ghorn, which was then, though an ancient, yet a mean and pitiful, place, into a large and beautiful town, improving the haven by a mole, which rendered it both safe and commodious; and having engaged His Serene Highness to declare it *scala franca*, (or a free port,) he, by his influence and correspondences, drew many English merchants to settle and set up houses there, which was a thing of great importance to our Italian trade, and, considered in that light, was of very great service to his native country^h."

^h Biog. Brit. Art. Dudley

Chalmers adds nothing to the foregoing information. The author of the *Romance of the Peerage*, with his usual adherence to good authorities, repeats, "that Leghorn first rose to importance under the Archduke Ferdinand the III, and, according to our English writers, its rapid transformation from a place of no note to a great commercial city, was principally the work of Dudley, and the consequence of the measures he advised."

As many of the authorities referred to by George Lillie Craik, Esq. the author of the *Romance of the Peerage*, are introduced into the statements in this Memoir, (such, for instance, as the *Spanish Pilgrim*, the *Life of Lord Herbert of Cherbury*,) it may be supposed, that the writer has borrowed them from this entertaining author without acknowledgments. The reader therefore is to be informed, that the writer, as Vicar of Stoneleigh, has a commemorative duty to perform every year, which necessarily brought him to the knowledge of Sir Robert Dudley's character. His biographical researches relating to Sir Robert began in 1806, and nothing has been left unattended to, which could throw a light upon his character.

To these English evidences, as to the greatness of the services rendered to the Great Duke and country of Tuscany, may now be added that of Imhoff, a German, and the author of the *Biographie Universelle*, a French writer. Imhoff, the Genealogical Historiographer of Nuremberg, without concealment or reserve, declares, that Sir R. Dudley became the friend and favourite of the Grand Duke, by reason of his remarkable skill in naval and military architecture, and his counsellor, in raising the mean and ignoble village of Leghorn into a distinguished city and finely fortified port. "Cujus ducem singulari suâ architecturæ tam civilis quam militaris et marinæ peritiâ conciliavit, auctorque ei existit ex Liburnensi ignobili vico, insignem urbem et portum pulchre munitum ædificandi."

“ Dudley employa utilement ses connaissances dans le nouveau pays qu’il avait adopté, à perfectionner la navigation, à étendre et encourager le commerce. Favorisé par le Grand-Duc Ferdinand II. successeur de Cosme II. il entreprit de dessécher les marais qui se trouvent entre Pise et la mer. Il agrandit le port de Livourne, ville alors peu considérable, et le rendit plus sûr et plus commode, par le môle qu’il y fit construire ; il engagea le Grand-Duc à le déclarer *port franc*, ce qui y attira un grand nombre de marchands Anglais. Les bienfaits du Grand-Duc le mirent en état de vivre avec la magnificence qui était dans son caractère, protégeant les sciences et les savants, auxquels il se recommandait en même temps par l’étendue de ses connaissances¹.”

The best proof of this total silence and suppression of the honour due to our countryman of Warwickshire, which I have been able to find, is in the work of *Botta's Istoria d'Italia, in three volumes*, p. 497, ed. 1832, wherein the Italian historian labours to refer all the credit of what Dudley had done for Etruria and its reigning Sovereigns, to their personal and practical skill and abilities, and so to transfer all the praise and merit of his labours exclusively to Cosmo II. and Ferdinand II.

Botta's Storia d'Italia will be first cited in proof of the foregoing observations. “ He, the Grand Duke, conferred great benefits upon commerce and agriculture. At an immense expense he enlarged the Port of Leghorn, and enriched it with shops, warehouses, and conveniences of every sort, for the use of those who frequented the Port, and traded there. He afterwards made a law, by which he conferred entire freedom to all nations in this Port, but specially and expressly upon the Jews, which had the effect of largely increasing commerce, and settling there a considerable number of merchants. He afterwards

¹ Biographie Universelle, tom. 12. Article, *Dudley, Sir Robert*.

drained the marshes, causing lands to be most fertile and fruitful, which before lay barren, by reason of their sunk and marshy condition. From whence also arose another advantage, for the air was purified of its sickening vapours, and thus a sanatory provision was made for the health of the inhabitants. But he did not succeed with equal effect in his endeavour to drain the marshes of Sienna, although he worked at it at a very heavy expense; but Nature here was found to be more rebellious than in the valley of the other marshes, and would not suffer itself to be conquered by the force of Art. Finally, it may be said, that Ferdinand was a worthy successor of the Medici, by his munificence and patronage of the Fine Arts. He was neither cruel nor uncourteous in his manners, but mild and humane both in his government and conversation. *Tenendo piu mite ed umano costume cosi nel governare, comé nel conversare.*"

What has been here said might, by extended reference, be shewn to be the case with all the general historians of the country^k. Even the *Osservatore Fiorentino*, writing so long after the existence of all the parties to these national improvements, could not forbear from the attribution of the principal place of praise and honour to the employer, and not the employed—to the Grand Duke, and not to Dudley—telling us, that “il Grand Duca aveva già concepita l’idea de render piu commodo e piu sicuro il Porto di Livorno e si servi di lui (i. e. di Dudley) per farvi tutti quei necessari miglioramenti e costruzioni che difatti vi fece. Il molo e disegno del Conte di Warwick, Duca di Nortombria.”

Eustace’s *Tour through Italy*, vol. iii. p. 463, cannot be read without some surprise, that he, an Englishman, should have passed over the name of Dudley in his observations on the Port of Leghorn; telling us, “that it never attained

^k See Pignotti’s *Istoria del Gran Ducato*, and other Writers of Florentine History.

any consideration, and indeed remained a petty village, almost immersed in swamps and sea-weeds, till the Medicean princes turned their attention to its Port, and by a series of regulations, equally favourable to the interests and the feelings of the mercantile body, made it the mart of Mediterranean commerce."

Nothing of this jealous and narrow-minded suppression of the names of those whose science formed the plans, or of those minor co-operators whose manual skill as artificers, or superintendants of artificers, has been employed upon great works of engineering or architectural celebrity, is to be found upon the records of our great national undertakings. In all these great achievements of genius and labour, skill and science, such as making of bridges of stone or iron, arched or suspended, breakwaters, sub- or super-marine pier-building, no petty vanity, no arrogant desire of appropriating praise, no thirst of posthumous fame, is allowed to conceal and suppress the names and praises of the engineers and artificers employed upon the work. Any endeavour to lower or displace from their proper place in the annals of national glory the name and fame of Watt, Stevenson, Rennie, Brunel, Piteairn, Barry, Cubitt, would not only be fruitless, but dishonourable. The total suppression or inadequate representation of what Sir R. Dudley did for Tuscany, damages the gratitude of Etruria, without extinguishing its debt of thankfulness, or the obligations of national honour, towards this great English benefactor of that country.

SIR ROBERT DUDLEY'S GREAT NAUTICAL WORK, L'ARCANO DEL MAR.

That Dudley's knowledge extended in depth and variety far beyond the measure of the age in which he lived, and especially beyond that generally possessed by the high born

youth of his day, receives indisputable proof from the contents of the wonderful book he published at Florence, under the title of the "*Arcano del Mar*," a work which, though principally occupied upon Navigation and the branches practical and theoretical which are subsidiary to this sort of knowledge, embraces matters of a totally different nature, as will appear from the annexed translation of the title-page of the edition of 1661¹.

"The Secret of the Sea, by Robert Dudley, Duke of Northumberland and Earl of Warwick, divided into six books; of which

"The first treats practically of Longitude, and the different ways of finding it, as invented by the Author.

"The second contains his general Maps, as also those of Ports and Harbours rectified in their Latitude and Longitude.

"In the third there are his Treatises on Maritime and Military Discipline.

"The fourth is on Naval Architecture and his method of building Ships of War.

"The fifth treats of Scientific and Perfect Navigation, that is, Spiral, or sailing by the Great Circles.

"The sixth book contains his collection of Geographical Maps, general and particular.

"Second edition, corrected and enlarged, according to the original of the same Most Excellent Lord Duke, kept in the Library of the Convent della Pace at Florence, belonging to the Monks of Saint Bernard; with an Index to the Chapters and the Figures, together with directions to the Bookseller how to bind them up. Dedicated to His Most Serene Highness Ferdinand the Second, Grand Duke of Tuscany. Printed at

¹ In common with all searchers after the deposits of the Bodleian Treasures, I have to thank that prompt and able purveyor to literary and scientific wants, the Rev. Dr. Bulkeley Bandinel, for a copy of this title-page of the *Arcano del Mar*. Ed. 1661.

Florence, 1661, at the new press of Joseph Cocchini, the sign of the Star, and at the earnest request (*a l'istanza*) of James Bagnoni and Anthony Francis Lucini, with permission of the Superiors."

In order rightly to understand this multifarious production of the author, it must be remembered, that before he came to Florence he had crossed the Atlantic, and explored the Isle of Trinidad, and the mouths of the River Oronoko, and had named a little island in its embouchure—Dudleyana. And he tells us in the introduction to his own account of that voyage, in Hakluyt, vol. iii. p. 571, ed. Lond. 1599, "that ever since he could conceive of any thing, he had been delighted with the discoveries of navigation; and that he had fostered in himself that disposition, till he was of more years and better ability to undertake such a matter." This may throw some light upon the origin and course of those studies, which, prosecuted with vigour, and guided by practical knowledge, produced that wonderful work, the *Arcano del Mare*, a title which, though sufficiently expressive and declaratory as to the far greater part of its books and plates, contains a great intermixture of subjects which cannot be said to belong either to the sea or hydrographical science. There is a very fine copy of it in the *Magliabechi* Library at Florence, of the edition of 1661, dedicated (as it has been already shewn) to the Grand Duke Ferdinand the II^d. By the date, 1661, it must have been a posthumous edition, the author having died Sept. 6, 1619.

The *Osservatore Fiorentino* informs us, that in the Library of the Royal Cabinet there are three volumes folio in MSS. by Sir R. Dudley, bearing the title of Military Architecture, written in the year 1610, of which the first volume is in English, and the other two in Italian, with a great many figures and designs.

There is a fine copy of this second edition in the Lord Leigh's Library at Stoneleigh Abbey, bought in Italy by the late Lord. It is a remarkably clean, firm, and sound copy; it has been bound in two volumes, and, like all the other copies of the second edition, has the Latin Diploma of the Emperor Ferdinand (in which he recognises Sir Robert Dudley's title to the Dukedom of Northumberland) engraved and bound up as a prefix to the first volume of the work.

To this account of the *Arcano del Mar*, it may be added, that it is a work of the greatest rarity. *Brunet*, in his *Manuel du Libraire*, throws the first edition as far back as the year 1630; so does *Anthony Wood*, as also *Lowndes*, in his *Bibliographer's Manual*.

The Bodleian Library possesses two copies. The first consists of three volumes folio, of which the first two bear the date of 1616, and the third that of 1617, but all printed at Florence. The other copy is in two volumes, printed in 1661. It is, like Lord Leigh's second or posthumous edition, dedicated to the Grand Duke of Tuscany, Ferdinand II.

Before this notice of the *Arcano* is closed, it is to be observed, that Dudley has devoted his fifth book to *la navigazione scientifica è perfetta, cioè spirale o di gran circoli*, a subject to which the local Marine Board of Liverpool has lately directed its special attention, and given peculiar encouragement; see *London Illustrated News*, June 13, 1857. *Munificent Testimonial*. "A thousand pounds was presented to Mr. J. T. Towson, Scientific Examiner to the Local Marine Board of Liverpool, for his valuable services in developing *the principle of the Great Circle Sailing*, by which the Australian voyages have been so much shortened."

The subject of the Great Circle Sailing very early engaged the attention of Sir Robert Dudley. It is not however meant to assign to him the first place either in the discovery of the principle of Great Circle Sailing, or in having been the first

who directed the attention of the nautical world to it; for as far back as 1537, Nunez explained this system of navigation, as well as that of Mercator; and others after him advocated the adoption of the Great Circle principle of sailing instead of Mercator's; all that is intended by these observations is to shew, that the importance of the subject had not escaped the perspicacity of Sir Robert Dudley, and that he had brought his correcter knowledge, as to the spherical shape of the earth's surface, practically to amend the errors arising out of the false hypothesis, that the earth's surface was a plane.

SIR ROBERT DUDLEY'S VOYAGE TO TRINIDAD, AS A SUPPLEMENT OR APPENDAGE TO THE ARCANO DEL MAR.

It is to be observed, that the first Book of the *Arcano del Mare* has the following heading.

1. "De quali si tratta della longitudini praticabile in diversi modi d'invenzione dell' autore."

It will therefore serve as a proper appendage or supplement to the foregoing work, to annex a short account of his voyage to Trinidad, in order to shew the watchful and enterprising spirit of this explorer of the sea's secrets, and prove the correctness of his nautical and hydrographical writings by his services as a practical seaman.

Although this topic does not properly belong to Dudley's Florentine Biography, as the Voyage to Trinidad took place in 1594, 5, and he bought his house at Florence of the Rucellai family not before 1613, though he might have settled in that city before he bought his house, having left England, July 6, 1605; still there is that close and illustrative connexion between his nautical speculations as a writer and the personal

narrative of what he did as a navigator, that although it may be a violation of the rule laid down, Dudley must be permitted to give an account of his voyage, if it be for no other purpose than to shew the practicability of his plans, and correctness of his studies in the closet. The account will also shew his daring spirit and consummate knowledge, presence of mind, firmness of resolution, and promptitude of contrivance under all difficulties; for Dudley was not only a hard student in the depths of naval science, but a real and personal discoverer of maritime secrets in unknown seas; and serving as a practical proof that he knew how to give his works and labours as a scholar, the evidence of truth and certainty by his actions, by the correctness of his course as a navigator.

Dudley's account of his voyage is headed thus: "A Voyage of the honourable Gentleman M. Robert Duddeley, now Knight, to the Isle of Trinidad, and the coast of Paria: with his return home by the Isles of Granta, Santa Cruz, Sant Juan de puerto rico, Mona, Zacheo, the shoalds called Abrejos, and the Isle of Bermuda. In which voyage he and his company tooke and stanke nine Spanisli ships, whereof one was an armada of 600 tonnes. Written at the request of M. Richard Hakluyt."

With singular modesty he opens his narrative with the following words: "Having ever since I could conceive of any thing bene delighted with the discoveries of Navigation, I fostered in my selfe that disposition, 'till I was of more yeres and better ability to undertake such a matter. To this purpose I called to me the advise of sufficient seamen, and undertooke a voyage for the South Seas; but by reason that many before had miscarried in the same enterprise, I could not be suffered to hazard more of Her Majestie's subjects upon so uncerteine a ground as my desire: which made me by constraint (great charges already by me defrayed) to

prepare another course for the West Indies, without hope there to doe any thing woorth note: and so common to many, as it is not woorth the registring. Neverthelesse, I have yeelded to your former importunity, and have sent you this my Journall, to supply a vacant roome amongst your more important discourses^m.”

[The Rev. Richard Hakluyt, that indefatigable collector of the early English Voyages, to whom the nautical world has been so largely indebted for what it knows of naval adventure, in the Reigns of Queen Elizabeth and the early part of that of James the First, was for his patriotic services made Prebendary of Westminster.]

“ Nowe being provided for this last enterprize, rather to see some practise and experience, then any wonders or profite, I weighed ancker from Southampton road the sixth of November, 1591. Upon this day, my selfe in the Beare, a shippe of 200 tunnes, my Admirall, and Captaine Munck in the Beare’s Whelpe, Vice-Admirall, with two small pinnesses, called the Fri-king and the Earewig, I passed through the Needles, and within two dayes after bare in with Plimmouth. But I was inforced to returne backe.

“ Having parted company with my Vice-Admirall, I went alone wandering on my voyage, sailing along the coast of Spaine, within view of Cape Finister and Cape S. Vincent, the north and south Capes of Spaine. In which space, having many chases, I could meet with none but my countrey-men, or countrey’s friends. Leaving these Spanish shores, I directed my course, the 11 of December, towards the Isles of the Canaries. Here I lingered 12 dayes for two reasons: the one, in hope to meete my Vice-Admiral; the other, to get some vessel to remove my pestered men into, who being 140 almost in a ship of 200 tunnes, there grew many sicke. I tooke two very fine caravels under the

^m See Hakluyt’s Voyages, vol. iii. p. 571.

calmes of Tenerif and Palma, which both refreshed and amended my company, and made me a Fleete of 3 sailes. In the one caravel, called the Intent, I made Benjamin Wood Captaine; in the other, one Captaine Wentworth. Thus cheared as a desolate traveller, with the company of my small and newe erected Fleete, I continued my purpose for the West Indies.

“ Riding under this White Cape two daies, and walking on shore to view the countrey, I found it a waste, desolate, barren, and sandie place, the sand running in drifts like snow, and very stony; for so is all the countrey sand upon stone, (like Arabia deserta, and Petrea,) and full of blacke venomous lizards, with some wilde beasts and people which be tawny Moores, so wilde, as they would but call to my caravels from the shore, who road very neere it. I now caused my Master Abraham Kendall to shape his course directly for the isle of Trinidad in the West Indies; which after 22 dayes we descried, and the first of February came to an anker under a point thereof, called Curiapan, in a bay which was very full of pelicans, and I called it Pelicans’ bay. About 3 leagues to the eastwards of this place we found a mine of Marcazites, which glister like golde, (but all is not gold that glistereth,) for so we found the same nothing worth, though the Indians did assure us it was Calvori, which signifieth gold with them. These Indians are a fine shaped and a gentle people, al naked and painted red, their commanders wearing crowns of feathers. These people did often resort unto my ship, and brought us hennes, hogs, plantans, potatos, pinos, tobacco, and many other pretie commodities, which they exchanged with us for hatchets, knives, hookes, belles, and glassebuttons.

“ The country is fertile, and ful of fruits, strange beasts, and foules, whereof munkeis, babions, and parats were in great abundance.

“Right against the northernmost part of Trinidad, the maine was called the high land of Paria, the rest a very lowe land. Morucca I learned to be full of a greene stone called Tacarao, which is good for the stone.

“The Caribes I learned to be man-eaters or canibals, and great enemies to the Islanders of Trinidad.

“In the high land of Paria I was informed by divers of these Indians, that there was some Perota, which with them is silver, and great store of most excellent cane-tobacco.

“This discovery of the mine I mentioned to my company, who altogether mutinied against my going in search of it, because they something feared the villany of Abraham Kendal, who would by no means go.

“I gave them their directions to follow, written under mine owne hand. But they went from me, and entred into one of the mouthes of the great River Orenoque.

“I was told of a rich nation, that sprinkled their bodies with the powder of golde, and seemed to be guilt, and that farre beyond them there was a great towne called El Dorado, with many other things.

“In my boate’s absence, there came to me a pinnesse of Plimmouth, of which Captaine Popliam was chiefe, who gave us great comfort.

“I stayed some sixe or eight dayes longer for Sir Walter Raleigh, (who, as wee surmized, had some purpose for this discovery,) to the ende that, by our intelligence and his boates, we might have done some good: but it seemed he came not in sixe or eight weeks after.

“And after carefully doubling the shouldees of Abreojos, I now caused the Master (hearing by a pilote that the Spanish Fleete ment now to put out of Havana) to beare for the Meridian of the yle of Bermuda, hoping there to finde the Fleete. The Fleete I found not, but foule weather enough to scatter many Fleetes; which companions left mee

not, till I came to the yles of Flores and Cuervo: whither I made the more haste, hoping to meete some great Fleete of Her Majestie my Sovereigne, as I had intelligence, and to give them advise of this rich Spanish Fleete: but findinge none, and my victuals almost spent, I directed my course for England.

“Returning alone, and worse manned by half then I went forth, my fortune was to meete a great Armada of this Fleete of some 600 tunnes well appointed, with whom I fought board and board for two dayes, being no way able in all possibilitie with fifty men to board a man of warre of sixe hundreth tunnes. And having spent all my powder, I was constrained to leave her, yet in such distresse without sailes and mastes, and hull so often shot through with my great ordinance betweene winde and water, that being three hundred leagues from land, I dare say, it was impossible for her to escape sinking. Thus leaving her by necessitie in this miserable estate, I made for England, where I arrived at S. Ives in Cornewall, about the latter end of May, 1595, scaping most dangerously in a great fogge the rocks of Silly.

“Thus, by the providence of God, landing safely, I was kindly intertained by all my friends, and after a short time learned more certaintie of the sinking of that great shippe, being also reputed rich by divers intelligences out of Spaine.

“In this voyage, I and my Fleete tooke, sunke, and burnt nine Spanish ships; which was losse to them, though I got nothing.”

THE MEDICAL WORKS OF SIR ROBERT DUDLEY: ‘THE CATHOLICON,’ ‘THE PULVIS VARVICENSIS.’

It has been generally remarked, that when men’s studies have been characterized by great diversity, they do not produce fixedness or firmness of knowledge. By such

distraction of thought and discrepancy of subject, the information, though various, is superficial, though directed (it may be) to the whole circle of science and literature, wants that which is necessary to make it promptly applicable, and practically useful. But it must be observed of Dudley's mind, that its powers could be directed to matters the most disparate, without losing any thing of the practical usefulness of what was acquired by them. In proof of this, attention will be now directed at some length to the mastery Dudley had attained over some of the depths and difficulties of chemical medicine.

But if these extracts from Cornachini's work should be extended to some length, it must be told, that the object has been not only to shew the physician's change of opinion as to the virtues of the Warwick Powder, but because they contain particulars which enable us to gain a clearer insight into Dudley's domestic habits and relations, and even his field-sports and amusements in Italy. The account of his sickness, and that of his Countess, as she is called, and his daughter Maria, and the butler, or purveyor, *Philippus Obsonator*, and the fever Dudley took from hawking and hunting on his journey from Leghorn to Pisa, all furnish matter to illustrate the Florentine life and character of this ever-active and inventive exile.

Antony Wood tells us, "that he had published a medical work called *Catholicon*, which he had never been able to get a sight of." This *Catholicon*, being a popular digest of the medicaments then in use, would have its editions, like those of Culpepper, Quincey, and Buchan, worn out by frequent reference, so that no copy exists; but the Powders, of which he had given the prescription to Dr. Mark Cornachini, have survived the assaults of time, by being committed to this physician's patronage and protection.

The work in question was dedicated, as it ought to be,

to the Inventor of the Powder; in which work, Antony Wood observes, many things are said to his honour in the Dedictory Epistle prefixed to it, but which are passed over, as the author says, for brevity's sake.

But as that letter shews the estimation in which this adept in medicine, as well as other sciences, was held, a translation of the letter is subjoined.

“Most illustrious Sir; words would fail me, if I should endeavour to clothe you, a man sprung from the highest nobility and adorned with so many virtues, with the praises which belong to your great name; for you are one from whom all may learn, that that alone is true nobility which obtains the admiration of all men, by reason of the glory of its achievements in learning.

“I admit that I am attempting a subject above my power; but relying upon your well-known kindness, and urged too by the importance of the subject itself, I will tell, in the best words I can, how beneficent you have shewn yourself to all men, how desirous of assisting and relieving all; and hence it is that you are venerated by all. You are living with the Grand Duke of Tuscany upon terms of friendship and affection, and all men wish you success and prosperity in whatever you undertake.

“For what other object have you in building pinnacles and row-boats upon new principles of construction, but that of deterring the pirates who assail our coast; by capturing and overthrowing them, you not only protect the land of Italy, but the whole of Europe. And hence it has arisen that so many enjoy safety and tranquillity, who might have been dragged into most wretched slavery. “*Sed quanto majus est ab immaturâ morte liberari.*” But how much greater is the blessing of being delivered from premature death! And daily by your invention is this deliverance effected. I myself have experienced it, I do experience it, and as long

as I live shall continue my experience. For what is the Powder which you have compounded with such exact judgment, but a wonderful way of rescuing the sick from death, and recovering persons who have been led to despair of their existence. And since these have been the results of your benevolence, such your desire to provide for the health of all, that you have permitted me to use your Powders for the benefit of mankind. This being the case, I have thought it right to inscribe these few words to you. I wish I could treat this extensive subject in all its fulness; but be this as it may, to you alone I have thought it right to dedicate these labours, because above all they are due to you on every account. Farewell; and long may you live, and reckon me (as you always have done) among your attached and faithful friends. Pisa, April 13, 1620." 2.14973

These acknowledgments of Dr. Cornachini will be quite sufficient to silence the allegations of those who have endeavoured to take away the praise of discovering these Powders, by referring it to Cornachini himself. But in farther confirmation of Dudley's authorship of these Powders, a few more words will be cited from Cornachini's Address to the Reader, as setting forth still more fully the obligations of Italy in this matter to the Earl of Warwick.

"It is now many years ago since Robert, Earl of Warwick, possessed of all virtues and worthy of every praise, entertained the design of rescuing our sea from barbarous pirates and atrocious plunderers, the bitter enemies of the Christian name; neither has he endeavoured with less zeal to deliver the human body from the painful ailments and perilous diseases which assail and overwhelm it. And when he saw that men and women of all classes and conditions of life, of all ages and habits, and differences of residence, at every season of the year were liable to fall into sickness, and sometimes to lose their lives, particularly by those attacks which

derive their origin from peccant humours, either by reason of their quantity or quality. For the driving away of such humours, "*ad quos depellendos*," the physician is sent for, and blood-letting resorted to, not only once or twice, but many times. Upon other occasions they resort to medicines called *sub-tinctures*, which more and more affect the mouth, palate, and taste, and, by reason of their nauseousness, overturn the stomach, produce griping, constrict the bowels; neither can such medicines continue to be exhibited, however greatly the occasion which may require them. Other symptoms also are superinduced by them; but the illustrious Earl devoted his days and nights to this subject, with a view to effect a cure of such ailment, and that too by treatment at once safe, speedy, and pleasant, (*tuto cito jucundè*,) at any time of the year, and without bleeding, which patients very often cannot bear, either by reason of their age, or the season of the year, or for other contra-indicatory symptoms, "*propter alias contra-indicationes*." At length this excellent man, after a long contemplation of the subject, came to the conclusion, that if he could discover some Powder, without taste or smell, small in quantity, but very powerful in effect, (*si pulvis aliquis insipidus, inodorus, mole quidem parvus sed virtute maximus adjuveneretur*,) a Powder which could conveniently bring about all that was required, we ought to embrace it with our whole heart, and always have it ready for use. At last the Almighty was pleased to fulfil the Earl of Warwick's vows and wishes, and guide his thoughts and studies to the discovery of this Powder which mildly, gently, composedly, (*blandè, placide, sedatè*,) relieves the patient *per alvum*. When the noble Earl communicated his discovery to me about four years ago, telling me, that he would declare upon oath that he had cured six hundred persons by his Powder, who were all at that time alive; I boldly, freely, and openly answered, *audactèr, liberè, et*

apertè respondebam, that his statement was neither more nor less than pure fiction; that it overthrew all the maxims of the ancient physicians; and that a more pestilent practice could not be introduced into medicine. And, finally, I exhorted him to give up his opinion upon the Powder, and its use. But all I said was in vain. He listened with no unkind feeling, but obstinately rejected all I could say. *Quæ quidem ipse omnia non ingrato animo sed obstinatione quâdam sententiæ repudiabat.*

“And now behold! this most illustrious man, about the close of last Spring, when he was travelling from Leghorn to Pisa, taking violent exercise on the road by hunting and hawking, was seized with a defluxion upon the membrane that surrounds the right breast, “*fluxio ad membranam succingentem circa mammam sinistram*,” which was accompanied by acute fever, interrupted respiration, (*exiguâ respiratione*,) frequent cough, and discoloured saliva.

“As soon as he perceived that it was an attack of pleurisy, he flew to Pisa, and lay down upon his bed. Upon reaching the palace, changing his diet, and applying fomentations to the parts affected, he then took his Powder, once, twice, and a third time, and recovered from this illness, without any bleeding, or any other sort of medicine, purgative or emollient. Shortly after this, his most illustrious wife, the Countess of Warwick, who happened to be in a very early stage of pregnancy, (though she was herself unconscious of it,) complained of heaviness in her head, body, and stomach, as is usual for women in the early months of their condition; but upon taking the Earl’s Powder, her system was relieved of its morbid humours, and she openly declared that she was much better; and on the 13th of January following, was safely brought to bed of a boy. About this time also her infant daughter Maria was seized with simple fever; and Philip, the purveyor to the Earl’s household, was attacked

not only with fever, but his whole body was covered with boils or blains. *Philippum obsonatorem febris invasit una cum epinyetidibus per universum corpus.* The illustrious Earl administered his Powder only once to each, and so restored them both to their former health. Now these recoveries I saw, and have well considered, and could not withhold my admiration from them. And being taught and conducted, as it were, by so many and such surprising cases, *tot tantisque exemplis doctus et ductus*, I determined to have recourse to this Powder, and have since administered it in all cases of this sort, whether with or without fever; and when I had learned by experience that the virtues of the Earl's Powders were not only efficacious, but that they were safe, admirable, incredible, *tutas admirabiles incredibilesque*, I did not hesitate a moment in clothing them with the glory that belonged to them, *verâ cum gloriâ prædicare non dubitavi.* For these things were witnessed not by a few, nor by their eyes alone, but by their hearts and feelings, as well as their reason and understanding; not by physicians only, but by all who were deeply interested in the protection and preservation of human health and life."

And more than that; for he tells us, that although he had *audacter, liberè, apertè* opposed him, and charged him with *obstinatione quâdam sententiæ*, he now openly confesses his own error, and becomes a convert to Dudley's medical philosophy, and recommends the Warwick Powder with all the oracular love of Galen and Hippocrates, and supports the use of it by the professorial and personal experience of the Chair of Medicine at Pisa.

The late learned, benevolent, and distinguished physician, Dr. Paris, late President of the College, in his *Pharmacologia*, 2 vols. edit. 6. p. 71. vol. 2. gives an account of this Powder, under the head of Antimonium Tartarizatum, of which the colour is said to be white, the odour none at all, the taste

slightly styptic and metallic: it is farther said of this chemical composition, that it is involved in much doubt and obscurity; that it is stated in various dispensatories to be a triple salt, consisting of tartaric acid, oxyde of antimony, and potass. He observes, that the famous emeto-purgative of the French School consists of sulphate of soda and tartarized antimony. The dose, according to its quantity, is emetic, cathartic, or diaphoretic. One quarter of a grain, if the skin be kept warm, will promote perspiration, half a grain generally proves to be cathartic and diaphoretic, and a whole grain operates in all the three ways above mentioned".

Dr. Paris in a note informs us, that Dr. Cornachinus of Pisa has given an account of a method of preparing a Powder which had been invented by Dudley, Earl of Warwick, and which had acquired considerable celebrity in Italy; telling us, that it was composed of scammony, sulphuret of antimony, and tartar, triturated together.

The knowledge of Pharmaceutical Archaeology, as it may be called, possessed by those eminent chemists and dispensers, near Albany, Piccadilly, has enabled me to add something to the ancient as well as modern history of the Warwick Powder. These Gentlemen favoured me with extracts from Bates's Dispensatory 1691, and Zwelfer's Pharmacopœia 1672, to which they afterwards added extracts from the Pharm. Lusitanica 1822, and Pharm. N. Castellano 1823. From these and other evidences it may be observed, that the name of Sir Robert Dudley, as the author of the Pulvis Varvicensis, is made to give place to that of Dr. Mark Cornachini in most of the foreign Pharmacopœias. Zwelfer,

ⁿ It was fortunate for the wives of the Earl of Leicester that he did not possess the chemical knowledge of his son; for had he possessed it, the probability is, that it would not have been reserved for a market town in Staffordshire, and for the year 1855, to have first witnessed a murder by antimonial poison.

however, calls it, *Pulvis Comitiss de Warwick*. The English Pharmacopœists (with the exception of Salmon, in his translation of Bates's Dispensatory 1694) upholds Dudley's title to the discovery of this Powder, who, upon settling at Florence in 1613, took the title of Earl of Warwick, and for so doing was ordered home by James I, having had the King's licence to travel for three years after the close of the Star Chamber iniquity, June 7, 1605. And so it has happened to this wonderful man as to his pharmaceutical knowledge, as it did to his improvement of the Port of Leghorn, and the drainage of the Tuscan marshes, that in these improvements, inventions, and discoveries, foreigners have shewn themselves very backward in acknowledging the Englishman's skill, science, and services.

With respect to the name of this Powder, if the publication of it had happened a little later, it would have been brought under the notice of the medical world, under a higher title than that of Warwick. This explorer of chemical as well as nautical secrets had not at that time succeeded to the title of Duke of Northumberland, conferred upon him by the Emperor, March 9, 1620. Had it been conferred before the publication of the Powder, and the physician's praise of it, it would have been ushered into use under a Ducal title instead of that of an Earl.

To the Gentlemen before referred to, the Writer of this Memoir is indebted for information respecting the composition and uses of the Powder; and that Salmon, in his translation of the *Pharmacopœia Batæana*, has given two preparations of it.

First,

R Diagrydium Sulphuratum 5x.

Antimony Diaphoretic 5vj.

Cremor Tartari ʒiiss.

And secondly,

R Antimonial tartar vitriolated ʒi.

Rosin of scammony reduced to powder with sweet almonds ʒ½.

Cremor tartari ʒvj.

Diagrydium is a term formerly in use for *scammony prepared with fumes of sulphur*. So also as to another obsolete word found in Zwelfer, 1672, where the *Pulvis Comitum Warwick* is called *Diagrydium Antimoniatum*, and its formula is given thus :

Cholagogi simplicis uncias duas. }
drachmas duas. }
Antimonii præparati unciam unam semis.
Cremoris tartari crystallini unciam semis.

Chologogum, like *diagrydium*, means scammony prepared with fumes of sulphur.

This bygone preparation of *scammony with fumes of sulphur* was effected by taking scammony in powder, any quantity, and spreading it upon white paper, and keeping it over a chafing dish containing burning charcoal; sulphur was then thrown upon the coals in small quantities, and the scammony stirred till it began to melt and adhere to the paper.

Before closing this chain of evidence to shew the variety and versatility of Dudley's intellectual power, it must be shortly stated, that such was its aptitude for all sorts of employment, even for those of an inferior nature, (if sportsmen will pardon the observation,) that he was the first who taught the lovers of field-sports how to break in dogs for the gun. But to this point let Antony speak with his amusing particularity.

"He was a handsome personable man, tall of stature, red-haired, and of admirable comport; and, above all, noted

for riding the great horse, for tilting, and for his being the first of all that taught a dog to sit in order to catch partridges."

SIR ROBERT DUDLEY'S INFLAMMATORY PAMPHLET ABOUT BRIDLING PARLIAMENTS.

The next book to be adduced is another proof of the great versatility of Dudley's intellectual power, and its aptitude for treating subjects political as well as scientific. The transition in this instance is as remarkable as the title of his political pamphlet, "A Discourse to correct the Exorbitances of Parliaments, and to enlarge the King's Revenue." It is stated in the beginning, that "this proposition for your Majesty's service containeth two parts, the one to secure the State and bridle the importunances (rather impertinences) of Parliaments, and the other to increase your Majesty's Revenue, &c. contrived and written in the year 1613." But as C. P. Cooper, Esq. (*in his Account of the most important Public Records of Great Britain*, vol. i. p. 33. A.D. 1832.) has given a more particular account of the author and his work, and of some of the results of its appearance in public, I shall extract his account of it.

"In 1629, a tract was handed about in MS. entitled, 'A Project how a Prince may make himself an absolute Tyrant.' The enquiries that were immediately made for the author of so pernicious a performance, led at length to the Cottonian Library. Sir Robert Cotton, perfectly conscious of his innocence, made strict inquiry into the transaction, and soon found that a copy of this tract, written at Florence in 1613 by Robert Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, under the less exceptionable title of 'Propositions for His Majesty's Service to bridle the Impertinency of Parliaments,' had,

unknown to him, found its way into his library ; and that likewise, without his knowledge, his Librarian, or Amanuensis, had, as is suspected, for pecuniary considerations, suffered one or more copies to be taken under the former of these titles, and thus drew the fatal imputation to fall upon one who, though perfectly free from guilt, could not long survive a suspicion so injurious, though so groundless."

But to understand all the results of this publication, we must go to article *Cotton*, (in Chalmers' Biographical Dictionary,) where we find a letter from Dr. Samuel Harsnet, Archbishop of York, to Sir Henry Vane, Ambassador at the Hague ; dated London, November 6th, 1629.

" On Saturday, in the evening, there were sent Mr. Vice-Chamberlain and others to seal up Sir Robert Cotton's library, and to bring himself before the Lords of His Majesty's Council. There were found in his custody a pestilent tractate, which he had fostered as his child, and had sent it abroad into divers hands, containing ' A Project how a Prince may make himself an absolute Tyrant.'"

Sir Symonds D'Ewes's account of the affair (among the Harleian MSS.) writes thus : " Among other books which *Mr. Richard James* lent out, one Mr. St. John of Lincoln's Inn, a young studious gentleman, borrowed of him a dangerous pamphlet that was in a written hand, by which a course was laid down how the Kings of England might oppress the liberties of their subjects, and for ever enslave them and their posterities.

" This Mr. St. John shewed the book to the Earl of Bedford, or a copy of it, and so it passed from hand to hand in the year 1629, till at last it was lent to Sir Robert Cotton himself, who set a young fellow, whom he then kept in his house, to transcribe it, which plainly proves that Sir Robert knew not himself that the written tract had originally come out of his own library.

“ This untrusty fellow took one copy secretly for himself, when he wrote another for Sir Robert, and out of his own transcript sold away several copies, till at last one of them came into Sir Thomas Wentworth’s hands of the North, now Lord Deputy of Ireland, (afterwards Earl of Strafford.) He acquainted the Lords and others of the Privy Council.”

Without pursuing these details any farther, the Star Chamber took cognizance of the tract, and its discovery, and the parties who were found to have been in possession of it. Sir Robert died of grief. And thus *James*, who was the original transcriber of Dudley’s pamphlet, became the wretched instrument of shortening Sir Robert Cotton’s life. His library was locked up, and guards set to watch his house ; where (says Sir S. D’Ewes) I went to visit him several times in 1630, and comfort him ; and he would tell me, “ they had broken his heart, and had locked up his library from him.”

It is to be observed, that one of the articles in the Attorney General’s information against Sir Robert Cotton, was, that “ the discourse or project in question was framed and contrived within five or six months past here in England ;” but *Sir David Foulis* declared upon oath, (being thereunto required,) that it was contrived *at Florence seventeen years before by Sir Robert Dudley* ; upon which *Chalmers* informs us, that most of the parties were released, and that Sir Robert Cotton had his library restored to him.

The work that caused all these commotions and Star Chamber inquisitions, is to be found in Rushworth’s Collections, Ed. 1. folio, Lond. 1659, App. p. 12.

Having never read the work, I must be indebted to others for an opinion of it. The author of the *Biographia Britannica*, Dr. Kippis, though very favourable in his opinion of Sir Robert Dudley, says of this his political tract, “ that

° After the execution of the Earl of Strafford in 1641, the work was attributed to him under the title of *Strafford’s Plan Discovered*.

it is in all respects as singular and dangerous a paper as ever fell from the pen of man." In *Rushworth's Collection* it bears the heading of "A Proposition for His Majesty's Service to bridle the Impertinence of Parliaments." It was Dudley's scheme for the establishment of a despotism in England. And besides plans for raising money, it recommends, 1st, that every considerable town should have a fortress; 2. that high-ways should be made through towns of this description; 3. that these fortresses should be garrisoned with troops who had no connection with the inhabitants of the place; 4. that none should be allowed to pass through these towns without a passport; 5. that all inn-keepers should be obliged to register the names of all who lodged with them.

Neither will the full extent of the commotion caused by the perusal of this Manuscript (for it was not printed till some years after it had got into circulation) be understood, till the date of its appearance and the circumstances of the times be duly considered.

Sir Robert Dudley's plan for "bridling the impertinence of Parliaments" emerged from its secrecy on the shelves of Sir Robert Cotton's library at the very time when Parliaments were shewing the greatest jealousy of their rights and privileges. They were the days when Pym and Hampden, and the other members of their party, were rapidly growing into strength and influence, and were resisting the men and measures resorted to by the Crown for the enlargement of the constitutional borders of its authority. It was not long that party-spirit began to ferment; and, though in defiance of all evidence, the authorship was ascribed to individuals of the royal party. Laud and Strafford were in their turns charged with the drawing up of this dangerous paper, which may be said to have fallen like a bomb-shell among the men and things of 1629, and by its combustible materials to have set the political world on fire.

Thus then a paper, written at Florence soon after Sir Robert Dudley had settled there in 1613, and had since that time been buried among the stores of political curiosities in the Cotton Collection, till brought to light by surreptitious copies, awakened the suspicions of Parliament and the country, and greatly damaged, instead of promoting, the interests and influence of the Crown.

The author of the *Athenæ*, whilst he assigns the authorship of this performance to Sir Robert Dudley in the year 1613, or to use his mode of dating 11 Jac. I. specifies, and with great probability, the motive which led to the writing of it, which was to procure its favourable acceptance by James I. and lead the way to the pardon of the author, and permission to return to his country, and resume the possession of the estates which had been left him by his father the Earl of Leicester, and had been so unjustly taken from him.

FLORENTINE DESCENDANTS OF SIR ROBERT DUDLEY.

(*See Pedigree.*)

One consequence of the conspiracy of Letitia Knollys, wrongfully married to Robert Earl of Leicester, (who at the date of that marriage in 1576 was the husband of Lady Douglas Sheffield, then living,) was the false and injurious imputation of illegitimacy upon Robert Dudley, son of Lady Douglas Sheffield. But it is to be observed, that such illegitimacy was never imputed till his bigamy with Letitia, Countess of Essex, in 1576. The Earl of Leicester concocted this fraud of bastardy with that most intriguing woman, who persuaded him to repudiate his true conjugal and paternal relationship to his existing wife and child. And hence it is that, in the genealogical evidence brought before the House of Lords in the case of Sir John Shelley

Sidney's claim to the Barony of De l'Isle, Sir R. Dudley, Duca di Nortumbria, is represented a mere nullity upon the family pedigree. Such, however, is not the evidence of his Tuscan fame. In Italy he is found to shine a star of the first magnitude, or rather a constellation of stars, pouring forth rays of various colours, but all of equal brilliancy, and combining the splendour of scientific attainments with the gracefulness of polite learning.

In Italy we have had to consider him as Duke of Northumberland, Earl of Warwick, and as such recognised by the Emperors of Germany, and raised to wealth and eminence by the patronage of the Grand Dukes of Tuscany. We are now specially to consider him as the founder of a Ducal family, and the proprietor of those Ducal estates which, under partition, were transmitted by inheritance to a long line of posterity.

“The line of the Earl of Leicester (says a popular author of great and accurate research) was not extinguished by the death of his son; that is, his son by Letitia Knollys, who lies buried in the Beauchamp Chapel, Warwick, under the obsolete style and title of the Noble Imp. Sir Robert Dudley and Elizabeth Southwel, or the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland as they were styled, had a numerous family of sons and daughters; four of the daughters grew up and married into Italian families of rank, and some of their descendants are very probably still extant in Tuscany. The son who inherited the title was named Charles. It was this Charles, Duke of Northumberland, who communicated to Antony Wood, by letter, dated Rome, Oct. 17, 1673, many of the particulars he has preserved. How much longer he lived does not appear; but he is stated to have married in France Mary Magdalen Gouffier, of the family of the Duke of Rohanet, and by her to have had many children. His eldest son Robert, at the time when he wrote to Wood, went

by the name of the Earl of Warwick, as he himself likewise had done in his father's lifetime; and one of his daughters who married the Marquis Paleotti of Bologna, was by him the mother of a son and daughter, who both found their way back to the native country of their great grandfather, in the beginning of the next century, and figure diversely in the Romance of English Family History of that period: the Lady dying Duchess of Shrewsbury, and her brother on the gallows at Tyburn."

Instructed by the authentic information which the author of the *Athenae* received from Duke Carlo, son of Sir Robert Dudley, in 1673, we learn that his eldest daughter was married to the Prince of Piombino, of the house of Arragona Appiana; that the second became the wife of the Marquis of Clivola, of the house of Malespina; the third married the Duke of Castilion del Lago, of the house of La Corgnia; and that the fourth was married to the Conté di Carpegna, brother to the Cardinal of that name. Here then we have an account of his four daughters and their marriages, communicated by their own brother in 1673, but without any mention of their baptismal names. Neither is this want supplied by an original letter of il Duca di Nortumbria, dated August 28, 1638, as quoted by the authors of the *Osservatore Fiorentino*. They inform us, that this original letter exists in the old Secretary of State's office in the Grand Duke's Palace.

The statement in the *Osservatore Fiorentino*, as collected from the Duke's letter, is as follows: "Si rileva da una lettera originale dal detto Duca scritta in data del dì 28 Agosto, 1638, esistente nella vecchia secreteria di Palazzo che egli in detto anno trovava sì a suo carico cinque figli, Carlo successore in titoli della familia, Ambrogio, Antonio, Ferdinando che si vesti *Prate Dominicano* ed Enrico—con

dipiù una figlia per nome Teresa." As to this Teresa, the only daughter mentioned in this document, she appears by another, which is now to be referred to, to have been married to the Conte di Carpigna, one of the daughter's husbands mentioned by Antony Wood. The document to be adduced will serve to confirm to a certain extent the names of his children. It will also throw a light upon the property possessed by the Duke of Northumberland in Florence, and in the Parish of St. Martin à Maiano in the District of Fiesole. Before the authority of this paper be made to bear upon the subject, it is to be told, that it is the custom of Florence to register all descents of property, whether by purchase, exchange, or inheritance. From this Registration Office there has been procured an official copy of those entries on the Roll which relate to the Dudley Family. The translation as to a few legal phrases may not be quite exact.

" In the Roll for the year 1614.

" Robert Dudley, Earl of Warwick and Leicester in England, residing in Florence.

" A house in the Parish of San Pancrazio, in the Canton of the Tornaquinci, which house the said Robert purchased of the Reverend Lodovico, Clerk of the Closet, and Ferdinand, brothers, and sons of Orazio Rucellai, for 4000 scudi, as appears by a contract signed before Signor Bernaba Bacelli, under the date of the 5th of April, 1614, filed under No. 157.

" In the year 1652, as appears by Roll, No. 83, a portion of the aforesaid house passed from the aforesaid Robert Dudley to the use of Charles Duke of Northumberland, and Henry Earl of Warwick, brothers, and sons of the Duke Robert Dudley of Northumberland, by inheritance, on the death of their father.

" And the other portion passed, as appears by Roll, No. 92, 1652, to the use of Count Mario de Carpigna

and Teresa his wife, the daughter of the said Robert Dudley.

“It was assigned to the said Count Mario and Teresa, out of natural love and affection, for five years, commencing the 8th of September, 1619.

“In the year 1692, as appears by Roll, No. 112, the said house passed from the said brothers, Charles and Henry, sons of the Duke Robert Dudley, and Count Mario and Teresa his wife, to the use of Don Antonio, son of Duke Charles, son of Robert Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, Canon of the Cathedral of the Vatican, after the death of Duke Charles his father, who died intestate on the 25th of October, 1686, as appears by Roll, No. 559, having left Charles, Robert, and the said Canon Anthony, his sons surviving him, and the said Robert renounced his paternal inheritance in favour of the said Anthony, with benefit of law and inventory, as appears by the Notarial Act of Signor Pancenzio Pandozzi, 7th Novemb. 1686, registered No. 560.

“But not being able to set forth in what manner this inheritance came to him from Henry his paternal uncle, application was made on behalf of the said Don Anthony and Duke Charles. And in the year 1695, as appears by Roll, No. 59, several farms, some in the Parish of Saint Martin à Maiano in the District of Fiesole, passed to the use of the said Don Anthony, to hold with benefit of law and inventory, being the inheritance of Signora Maria Maddelena Gauferre, Marchioness of Braxeos, his mother, who died in France, as appears by the contract registered by Signor Bartholomew de Marco da Barberino, under date 22d May, 1623. Register 265.

“In the year 1728, as appears by No. 92, the aforesaid house and farms, in the District of Fiesole, passed from the aforesaid Don Anthony, son of Duke Charles Dudley, to Thomas, son of the Marquis Andrew Paleotti, to hold as



the heir of the Duke Anthony Dudley of the Duchy of Northumberland, and Earl of Warwick, as appears by the Notarial Act of Signor Niccolo Vincenzo Melani, under date 3d November, 1728, filed in Chancery No. 129."

The following attempt to make a genealogical tree out of the particulars contained in the *Athenæ*, the *Osservatore Fiorentino*, and the official Document from the Registration Office at Florence, though it would not pass at the Herald's Office by reason of its imperfection and insufficiency, may be of some service to assist future enquiries.

LEGITIMACY OF SIR ROBERT DUDLEY REPUDIATED IN THE PEDIGREE ADDUCED IN THE DE L'ISLE PEERAGE CASE.

In propounding the Writer's conviction, that Sir Robert Dudley was the son of Robert, Earl of Leicester, by his lawful wife, the Lady Douglas Sheffield, born at Shene in Surrey, in 1573, it must not be considered any derogation from the finding of the Lords in 1829, in the case of the claim to the Barony of De l'Isle. Neither is it intended either directly, or by inference or imputation, to impugn that finding, or the final result of it. But these admissions will not silence the clamours of outraged justice, in the beginning of the reign of James I.; there will still remain for public reprobation, the iniquitous proceedings of the Star Chamber in 1605; the sealing up and suppression of the evidence taken upon that occasion; the restraining of Sir Robert Dudley from prosecuting his claim to legitimacy; the denial of justice which took place; the interposition of Regal and Aristocratic influences, and the operation of those influences upon the judicial mind; the crafty contrivance of Letitia Knollys, to bring an

action for defamation against the vindicator of his legitimacy, and thereby drawing off the attention of the Court from the real question of legitimacy to that of libel, and placing the claimant in the false position of one who had done instead of suffered injury, and divesting him of his character of plaintiff by making him a defendant. In consequence of these proceedings, characterized alike by fraud and force, he who could have proved a married mother and a lawful birth, could not get a fair hearing; and the stratagems of Letitia turned out to be more powerful than the claims of justice and the strength of proof. The intrigues of the pretended Countess of Leicester, backed by the King's pusillanimity, if not concurrence, estopped the trial of the legitimacy question, and robbed the noble Dudley, as he is called by Antony Wood, of his right to have his cause decided as well as heard by a Court of Justice; for the claimant was never permitted to follow up his overwhelming proofs, the Star Chamber ordering them all to be sealed up and suppressed, till the King himself should order the seal of their enclosure to be broken, and the papers delivered over to judicial decision. For by the exercise of the unconstitutional powers vested, claimed, and acted upon by that un-English and now suppressed Court, the question of Sir Robert Dudley's legitimacy was never permitted to be brought to an issue, and still remains historically considered as an open question, for the determination of the impartial and dispassionate in the present day.

Nothing can be found in these proceedings which will serve to abate any thing of the indignation which every lover of British justice ought to feel against the Regal and Aristocratic influences, which were brought to bear against Dudley's claim to his right of being permitted to prove his mother's marriage, by every sort of proof which the question of marriage admitted, before the Act of Parliament prescribed publicity and registration.

It would have been well for the honour of English justice, if the Court of Star Chamber had been extinguished, as it was in the next reign, before the year 1605 ; for it is against the judicial orders of that Court, and against those Judges who were parties to it, and especially against the crafty and fraudulent agencies then at work, that the severity of these remarks is directed. Having thus protected the Memoir against the imputation of unfairness and precipitancy, the allegation of Sir Robert Dudley's legitimacy will now be supported as an historical truth by what transpired before the House of Lords, out of the documents which engaged the discussions of Counsel, on the claim to the Barony of De l'Isle.

Upon the institution of these proceedings^a, June, 1824, there was a most exact and extensive search made for evidences of pedigree and descent. Upon the face of those evidences a very painful feature presents itself; the genealogical tree exhibits Sir R. Dudley as an illegitimate son, and consequently incompetent to convey succession to title or estate. In evidence of that fact, the Earl of Leicester's Will was produced, in which he distinctly declares, that a person of the name of Robert Dudley, afterwards Sir Robert Dudley, is what he calls his base son.

In the course of these proceedings upon that occasion, Lord Redesdale, father of the present upright and able Peer of that name, observed, " that there was a person who assumed to be the son of Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, and was created by the Grand^r Duke of Tuscany, Duke of Northumberland. Was that person so created, or was he

^a See Report of Proceedings on the Claim to the Barony of De l'Isle in the House of Lords, by Nicholas Harris Nicolas, Esq p. 15. London, W. Pickering, 1829.

^r Not so: it was the Emperor Ferdinand the Second who made him *il Duca de Nortoumbria*.

not the son of the Earl of Leicester?" To which he added, "it is very material the House should be informed upon that subject, and whether there are descendants of that person now living."

Counsel for the claimant (see page 92.) observed, "there is another portion of evidence upon this point, namely, a suit in the *Star Chamber*, a jurisdiction which at that time exercised the right of determining questions of this description, and they decided that he was not the son and heir of Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester."

At page 217, Mr. Hart went on to say, "that, according to our pedigree, (viz. that of the claimant,) it was necessary to extinguish the line of issue from Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester; and that he died without issue male."

Upon following the course of this narrative, the reader is tempted indignantly to exclaim, Why did not this vicious and voluptuous Earl break through his criminal silence, and still more criminal subjection to Lætitia Knollys, (widow of the Earl of Essex,) and obey the suggestions of his own natural love and affection for his son; for he was in heart devotedly fond of him, and, in proof of it, left him every thing he could leave after the death of his brother Ambrose, Earl of Warwick; namely, all his properties, (Kenilworth, Chirk, Denbigh, Temple Bolsal, Long Itclington, and his house in Leicester Square.) Still he withheld from that son's just claims, and lawful ambition, and fervent aspirations, the honest acknowledgment, "that he (Lord Leicester) had married Lady Douglas Sheffield, his mother, at Esher in Surrey, by a lawful Minister, according to the form of Matrimony by law established; that Sir Edward Horsey, Knight, Captain of the Isle of Wight, was not only present at the Marriage, but had given the Lady away; that Robert Sheffield, Esq. a relative of Lady Sheffield, Doctor Julio,



[Faint, illegible handwritten text, possibly a signature or inscription, located below the portrait.]

Henry Frodsham, and five other persons, were present at the Marriage; that the Duke of Norfolk had promoted it; and that the Earl of Leicester had presented the Lady upon her Marriage with *a ring set with five pointed diamonds, and a table diamond in the middle*, which had been given him by the then Earl of Pembroke's grandfather, upon condition, that he should never bestow it upon any woman, but the Lady he made his wife. And farther, had he permitted the love of his child after his birth (for his love was ardent and importunate upon that occasion) to triumph over his craven fears of Queen Elizabeth's displeasure, and over the ambitious prospects which he had entertained, and over his unbridled passion for Letty Knollys,—had he allowed the yearnings of paternal feeling to get the better of all opposing considerations,—he would have confessed the fact, that two days after the birth of his child at Shene in Surrey, he had written a right conjugal letter to the Lady Douglas Sheffield, his wife, thanking God for the birth of the infant, to be the comfort and staff of their old age, signing his letter, "*Your loving husband, Robert Leicester;*" had he farther *confessed* (as in honour and honesty he was bound to do) that he had offered Lady Douglas Sheffield seven hundred pounds a year, in the presence of Sir John Huband and George Digby, Esq. if she would disclaim her marriage, and that upon her refusal he had terrified her by threats; had he in these matters obeyed the dictates of conscience as well as paternal love, he would by his open declarations have been able to defeat the deep and dark iniquities of the Star Chamber, and expose the disgraceful confederacy which under James I. was too successfully at work to bastardize his son, and bring down all those misfortunes upon the child, which overclouded his manhood, and chequered all the pathways of his life with deep shades of wickedness, intermixed with those brighter lights of honourable and generous achievement, which adorned his life and services in Tuscany.

At page 250 of Nicholas's Report, Mr. Hart referred to the proceedings of the Star Chamber, whereupon Lord Redesdale asks, "How does this appear?" The Attorney General answered, "The only way by which I have come to know these things is by the courtesy of the claimant, for he has handed over to me many of the documents which appear to be official copies of the depositions produced in the Star Chamber Court." Lord Redesdale farther asked, "Is there any evidence of these proceedings in the Star Chamber?" The Attorney General informed him, that he had searched in vain for it; to which Mr. Hart rejoined, that it was not to be expected that there could be much; for at the conclusion of the Star Chamber proceedings, it was ordered, that all the depositions should be suppressed, sealed up, and not disclosed. How they came to be disclosed, he says, (in continuation,) I know not. Upon which the Attorney General observes of these depositions, "that from the impressions made by them on King Charles I., his Majesty thought that Sir Robert Dudley had been very hardly dealt with." Lord Redesdale then asked, what had become of the proceedings in the *Ecclesiastical Court*, which preceded those in the Star Chamber? The Attorney General, "They were only for the purpose of perpetuating evidence." Lord Redesdale, "Are they forthcoming?" Mr. Hart, "They are part of the proceedings which the Star Chamber proceeded to reverse; adding, that in the course of them, Sir Robert Dudley's mother, Lady Douglas Sheffield, swore positively to her marriage, as did two or three others who were present at it; they all swore to its having taken place at the house of the Lady at Esher, in the county of Surrey." The Attorney General referred to the Letters Patent of Charles I., by which he conferred the title of Duchess upon the lawful wife of Sir Robert Dudley, daughter of Sir Thomas Leigh of Stonleigh, giving precedence to her daughters who were then alive, namely Anne and Catharine, as Duke's daughters.

King Charles I. was convinced, that Sir Robert Dudley was the lawful heir of the Earl of Leicester. The King in the same document went on to express his very deep sense (see Report, page 415.) of “the great injuries done to Sir Robert and Lady Alice Dudley and their children, and that he was of opinion that in justice and equity the possessions taken from them did rightly belong to them.” Mr. Hart concluded this argument by denying the validity of such evidence, and by charging those who made use of it, that they sought to give a colour to the pretences set up that Sir Robert Dudley was legitimate, and that he and his large and long posterity might stand in a higher rank than the present claimant of the Barony of L’Isle.

In the course of these proceedings, Mr. Hart urged the great improbability of the Earl of Leicester’s endeavouring to bastardize his son, if he were born in wedlock; but all his arguments *ex improbabili* must go for nothing, because things accounted improbable, and even impossible, in those days, by reason of their disgraceful connection with noble men and noble women, have turned out to be frightful realities, the natural consequences of things done upon the sinner’s adage, *pro lege voluntas*. The wicked among the high-born of those days, especially in their amours, seemed to have recognised no other rule of action. It was a very improbable thing that Sir Francis Knollys, father of Letitia, was so convinced of the Earl of Leicester’s practised dexterity in denying and getting rid of nuptial ties after marriage had been solemnized, that the wary old statesman took the precaution of securing the attendance of a registered Notary Public to make an official record, as well as by taking care to secure a lawful Minister of the Church of England to perform the service. Camden says, “*Franciscus Knollys Lætiæ Pater, qui Leycestrii vagos amores noverat, credere noluit veritus ne filie illuderet nisi ipse*

præsens cum paucis testibus et Notario Publico Matrimonii fœdus conjungi videret¹."

It was a thing very improbable, that a man of Leicester's rank and station at the Court of the virgin Queen, and her special favourite, should have been suspected of poisoning the Earl of Essex, (Letty Knollys's first husband,) but nevertheless, he was pointed at as a man accustomed to the murderous use of poisons: *Vidimus tamen hominem tanquam venenarium digito publicè demonstrari².*

It was very improbable that Leicester, arrayed in all this splendour of rank and royal favour, should by secret agency have practised (that was the phrase of those days) upon the life of Lady Douglas Sheffield, his wife; that independently of the Lady's suppressed depositions, the public entertained the suspicion that an attempt had been made upon her life by poison. It was very improbable, that long before these suspicions of his intention to take away the lives of the Earl of Essex and the Lady Douglas Sheffield, it was the universal suspicion, upon the death of Amy Robsart of Cunner, that he was the contriver of the death of that amiable and innocent victim. It was very improbable that Leicester should have made Lady Douglas Sheffield the offer of settling £700 a year upon her, if she would disavow her marriage; but the offer having been made her in the presence of Sir John Huband and Mr. George Digby, at Greenwich, and by them sworn to, in their suppressed depositions, there can be no question about the truth of it.

It was extremely improbable, that upon the Lady's rejection of the offer, Leicester should have terrified her by threats, which, like the other facts deposed to, were not denied, but

¹ Camdeni rerum Anglicarum Annales regnante Elizabethâ. Ed. Lugd. Batavor. Ed. Elsevirior. 1639, page 278.

² Camdeni Annales, Ed. Elzev. 1639, page 278.

suppressed. It was very improbable, that during the reigns of Elizabeth and James I., that religion, law, and morality should have been made by the vicious and voluptuous men and women, among the nobility of those days, to bend before their sensual purposes, and that they should so often have sought by intrigue to obtain the gratification of licentious appetite.

But all these improbabilities, by the destruction of the sacred distinctions between true and false, right and wrong, pure and impure, became realities and certainties, making duty a nullity, when opposed to unbridled passion and sinful propensities; making the history of the Peerage in those days, to a painful extent, a wicked romance, by reason of the chopping and changing of wives; and making marriage the beginning instead of the end of illicit intercourse, and producing all sorts of ambiguity, as to the character of mothers and the legitimacy of children*.

But the improbability which is intended to close this long series (adduced to shew the nothingness of Counsel's argument *ex improbabili*)[†] is, that the King's Attorney General

* It is well known, that in an evil hour, both for this country and the Dutch Provinces, Leicester was appointed Generalissimo of the Forces sent to the assistance of the Low Countries. We find in Brandt's History, Lib. XIV, that Leicester had plotted the surrender of Leyden, and employed one Cosmo, a pawnbroker of the town, and an officer named De Mauld, and Vohmaer, in the project; the latter confessed, throwing the blame upon Leicester. When he was asked to shew his commission, he said that he relied upon Leicester's honour, and acted only upon his verbal order. When he was told that the Earl would deny them, he said, I am then a dead man. When Cosmo was put upon the rack, he cried out, *O excellence a quel employe vous les gens*. When Leicester heard of the fate of his confederates, he is reported to have said, It is high time to take care of my own head; and left the country. Now reverting to Counsel's argument *ex improbabili*, that it was highly improbable that there should have been found a man, in Leicester's eminence and authority, of such cruelty and cowardice; but such was the fact.

should have prevented the prosecution of Sir Robert Dudley's Case as plaintiff, by filing an information against him for libel, whereby he was placed in the false position of one who had to defend himself against accusation, and thus making the real sufferer of injury the pretended doer of it.

It was a thing that must appear incredible in the present day, that after a plaintiff had instituted proceedings to establish his rights and redress his injuries, an Attorney General should have interposed his power to stop the hearing and settlement of the previous question, by calling off the Court's attention from it, and fixing it upon another matter. Sir Robert Dudley applied to the Court that he might prove his legitimacy, seeking to perpetuate the evidence he possessed by filing it in the Ecclesiastical Court of Lichfield; he had prepared a large body of evidence by depositions, and deponents as well as depositions were all forthcoming to prove his legitimacy, when Regal, Aristocratic, and Family influences brought into operation this cunningly contrived machinery of an Attorney General's information, making it bear against the proceedings that had been instituted, and causing the question of libel and the defamation of Letitia Knollys to take precedence of the real question at issue. This, and the sealing up of all Dudley's evidences in bag or box, and consigning the whole to some recess in the Star Chamber, will go very far to prove the reality of all the improbabilities alleged by Mr. Hart; and King James I. and his Lords the Star Chamber Judges, and the Crown's Attorney General, and the powerful influences of the noble families deeply interested and concerned in the case, and especially the stratagems of Lady Leicester, formed a confederacy too powerful to resist, and too extensive to subdue.

And among other coincidences which operated against Sir Robert Dudley's rights, was the power of Finch, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, of whom it was said, that he

wrested the laws to a perverse meaning to answer the purposes of a despotic Court: fearful of being brought to justice, he hurried to a foreign country, and died in exile. Lord Clarendon informs us, (*Hist. of Rebellion*, p. 115. vol. i. pt. 1. ed. 1807.) that he openly declared, that whilst he was Keeper of the Great Seal, no man should be so saucy as to dispute the orders of the Lords of the Council, but that the wisdom of that Board should be always ground enough for him to make a decree in Chancery.

It cannot but be matter of surprise to all, who have become historically acquainted with the inherent pravity of that creature of despotic power and arbitrary government, called the Star Chamber, which has been handed down to the wonder of every Englishman and the abhorrence of every English jurist, that so much weight should have been given to the proceedings of that Court, as to have induced the Lords, in the *De l'Isle Peerage Case*, (see Report by Nicholas Harris Nicolas, Esq.) to permit Counsel to refer to, and argue from, such unconstitutional materials. And it forms a curious phenomenon in the annals of Appeals, that it should have tolerated the references of Counsel to the proceedings of a Court, so long the disgrace of British jurisprudence, and so peremptorily suppressed and dissolved by public indignation.

But if the House of Lords, in the *De l'Isle Peerage Case*, paid such unconstitutional deference to the Star Chamber and its proceedings, as to have suffered Counsel to have laid them before the House and argue from them, it was but fair and reasonable that the House should have paid due attention to the evidence adduced in proof of Sir Robert Dudley's legitimacy.

The sum and substance of that proof having been brought into a narrow compass, and printed in the *Life of Robert*

Earl of Leicester, 8vo. 1727, it will be extracted from that work, page 100, and laid before the reader, as follows :

“ This printed account, (adopting Camden’s observation,) says, that Leicester was openly pointed at as the poisoner of the Earl of Essex, and that this suspicion was increased by Leicester marrying Essex’s widow, and putting away his former wife, the Lady Douglas, widow to the Lord Sheffield, and daughter to William Lord Howard of Effingham. That she was his wife, seems evident from the depositions made in the Star Chamber, in the beginning of King James’s Reign, in favour of the legitimacy of Sir Robert Dudley, the Earl of Leicester’s son by the said Lady Douglas Sheffield. For it was there deposed upon oath, by the Lady Sheffield and several other persons who were present at her marriage, that after being contracted to the Earl of Leicester about two years before, she was solemnly married to him in her chamber, at Esher in Surrey, by a lawful Minister, according to the form of Matrimony established by law in the Church of England, in presence of Sir Edward Horsey, who gave her in marriage, Robert Sheffield, Esq. and his Lady, Dr. Julio, Mr. Henry Trodsham, and five other persons, whose names are there set down; that the ring, with which they were married, was set with five pointed diamonds, and a table diamond, and had been given to the Earl of Leicester by the grandfather to the then Earl of Pembroke, upon condition, that he should give it only to the Lady whom he made his wife; that the Duke of Norfolk was the principal instrument in making the match; and that the Earl of Leicester, out of a pretence of the Queen’s displeasure in case it were known, had engaged her to a vow of secrecy, till he should give her leave to reveal it. It was farther deposed, that within two days after Sir Robert Dudley was born at Shene, the Lady Douglas received a letter from his

Lordship, which was read by Mrs. Erisa, but then Lady Parker, wherein he thanked God for the birth of his said son, who might be their comfort and staff of their old age, and was subscribed, Your loving husband, Rob. Leicester; and that the said Lady was after this served in her chamber as a Countess, till he forbad it, for fear the marriage should be thereby disclosed. And besides these, there were many other depositions made, from whence it appeared, that the Earl of Leicester had owned Sir Robert Dudley as his lawful son, and that his brother, the Earl of Warwick, had in like sort asserted his legitimacy.

“ But all these engagements gave way to his passion for the Lady Essex, of whom he became so enamoured, that he offered the Lady Douglas no less than seven hundred pounds a year, in the Queen’s garden at Greenwich, to disown her marriage, and upon her refusal broke out into violent protestations, that he would never come near her any more, nor allow her one penny. And there is cause to believe, that, finding her obstinately resolved not to comply with his demand, he attempted to take her off by poison.”

Such is the condensed view of the evidence given by Leicester’s biographer to prove the certainty, that he, the Earl of Leicester, was lawfully married to the Lady Douglas Sheffield, at Esher in Surrey, and that Sir Robert Dudley was born of that marriage at Shene, now called Richmond, in Surrey.

At pages 218, 249, 250, 251, of the *Report on the Peerage Case before the Lords in 1824*, by Nicholas Harris Nicolas, Esq. we find the whole account of what must be considered the iniquitous usage experienced by Sir Robert Dudley in all that he did, and in all that he earnestly wished and attempted to do, to prove his legitimacy. The suppression, the careful sealing up of that evidence, and the removal of it from mortal

eye, raised the question in the Case before the Lords, how the contents came to be disclosed? Without attempting to answer the question, it is stated as an undeniable fact, that notwithstanding all the precautions taken to keep them out of sight, Star Chamber vigilance was defeated, its seals of office deprived of their tenacity; the depositions were all copied; Sir Robert Cotton's unwearied zeal and diligence in collecting manuscripts were more powerful for the purpose of protecting them, and making them accessible to the public eye for reference, than were all the dark agencies of the Star Chamber employed in their suppression and concealment.

It clearly appears from what Dugdale has recorded in his Warwickshire, page 166, and in his Baronage, vol. iii. page 222, that he had had access to the depositions, or copies of them. Thus in vol. iii. Baronage, page 222, we find this warranty in the margin, *ex ipsis depositionibus depositis in Curia Camere Stellatæ*; such depositions being, as to the matter therein referred to, proofs of the Earl of Leicester's marriage with Lady Douglas Howard.

The sentence of the Court is given *in extenso*, Baronage, vol. iii. page 223, and is thus headed; "Paschæ 3^a Jac. in Camera Stellatâ:" and in the margin of the page it is farther written, "Attorn. R. *versus* Sir Robert Dudley, Knight, Sir Thomas Leigh, Knight, *et alios*, fol. 107."

But the marginal reference at page 224, vol. iii. Baronage, is by far the most important, as connected with the question, shewing how it was that Sir William Dugdale was able to write so authoritatively, and set forth with such official exactness the contents of these depositions.

This important marginal reference is in these words,

"Ab exemplari autentico in bibl. Cotton."

Sir W. Dugdale informs us in this marginal note, that he obtained his information from an authentic copy of the depositions in the Cottonian Library.

The resolute Archæologist, in the quiet prosecution of his searches, finds that bolts and bars, bags and boxes, cannot defeat his energies, nor close the contents of Record Offices against his patriotic endeavours to give publicity to their muniments, and make them available (if need be) for the support of truth and justice. But be that as it may, Sir Robert Cotton's triumph over the Star Chamber and its jealous watchfulness, and the fastnesses of its inner chambers, and its official prohibitions, has enabled every Englishman to read and examine these vainly-suppressed depositions, and to think and judge for himself, as to the nature and validity of the evidence adduced by Sir Robert Dudley in proof of his legitimacy. And here again we cannot fail to rejoice at the blessed change which has widely opened the doors of the Law Courts to the oppressed, given to suitors all necessary facilities, securing publicity to all judicial proceedings, bringing them under the cognizance of the country at large, and making every man a juryman upon questions of injury and injustice^y.

^y It is clear, as before said, that Dugdale must have made himself well acquainted with the contents of all the Star Chamber papers. He tells us in his Summary of the Sentence of the Court, that all the examinations and depositions taken in the Court of Audience, and by the Commissioners, and at Lichfield, were ordered to be suppressed and damned; that the examinations and depositions in the Court that concern the Marriage between the Earl of Leicester and the Lady Douglas Sheffield should be sealed up by the Clerk of the Court, never to be seen or published: but it was all in vain. Iniquity has been brought to full and clear exposure.

CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS UPON DUDLEY'S CHARACTER, LIFE, AND BIOGRAPHY.

Having with as much accuracy as careful research may enable a writer to apply to the development of character, it may not be unfit to close this Memoir, by an endeavour to set forth those characteristics in the abstract, as collected from previous Biographical statement. The brilliancy of his literary and scientific, his military and naval, his civil and political achievements, as the constructor of the Pier or Mole of Leghorn, the drainer of the Tuscan Marshes, the writer of a noble Atlas, the explorer of the secrets of the Sea, the adviser of Free Trade as well as of a Free Port, the discoverer of a potent medicine, the Author of that extraordinary pamphlet which he wrote about 1613, the surreptitious copies of which, when circulated, threw England into a flame in 1630; all these proofs of a powerful but still of an irregular mind, demanded such an account and delineation of them as might be profitable for instruction as to what may be found praiseworthy, and for avoidance and condemnation as to those other parts and passages of his life, which were distorted by immoral and irreligious deformities, especially in his lawful relations as a husband and a father in England.

In prompt and multifarious learning, Sir Robert Dudley may be said to bear some resemblance to the admirable Crichton. In both instances Italy was the scene of their greatest celebrity; they also resembled each other in the accomplishments of the Gentleman, blended with the severer attainments of the Scholar; in heroic courage and chivalrous enterprize, interwoven with the dexterities of a Politician, the exactness of a Mathematician, and the profound thought of a Philosopher.

But confining the compass of these observations to the intellectual powers and undertakings of this wonderful man, there was to be found great vastness in his plans and purposes, giving them a spirit, an idiom, a personality, which made them peculiarly his own.

But how different might have been his public and private character, if, as in the present day, hereditary and legal right had been brought to fair and open judicial decision. Had he been permitted to take his seat among the Peers of Parliament, as the Earl of Leicester and Warwick; had it pleased the guilty confederacy and unconstitutional power of that day to let him remain in the unquestionable and undisturbed possession of what was his own, by his father's will and his own heirship, at once the Lord of the castles of Kenilworth and Warwick; had he been (as he was entitled to be by his legitimacy) invested with all the honours and influences and family relationships, as well as the properties, of his father and uncle; he might, perhaps, have been an imperious and overbearing man; but his habits of life, domestic and social, civil and political, literary and scientific, might also have exhibited the same order and consistency, energy and perseverance, which gave weight to his character and counsels in Italy, and which there made his intellectual powers so useful to his adopted Sovereign, and his various and manifold fitnesses for public employment to be respected, admired, rewarded. He might in England, as in Tuscany, have been distinguished as a philosopher and a political economist; as a naval commander, an explorer of the secrets of the sea, an exact geometrical surveyor, a naval architect and engineer, the constructor of harbours, the adviser of free trade, the drainer of marshes, the improver of lands. That he would have been magnificent in his hospitality, may be inferred not only from the examples of his family, and the splendour of what would then have been his hereditary

mansion houses, and the number of his noble friends, his suitors and dependents, but what we learn from the printed accounts of his style and manner of living at Florence, especially from that given by the Lord Herbert of Cherbury. All of which go to confirm what Italian writers have said of him, that he loved magnificence in his style and manner of living, and sought to uphold the dignity of his Ducal title by ceremonies and observances of state.

If in setting forth the features of *il Duca di Nortumbria's* character, too great prominence should appear to have been given to his prompt and multifarious learning, and too much space allotted to the display of his intellectual and scientific power, it must be borne in mind, first, that this Memoir professes to confine itself to his Italian or Florentine life; and, secondly, that the Memorialist has for many years had opportunities, year by year, under the obligations of pastoral duty and an appointed service of commemoration, largely to point out and condemn all that was sinful, licentious, adulterous, in the conjugal and parental conduct of Sir Robert Dudley, in his abandonment of a wife, whose virtues claimed not only fidelity, but devoted attachment; and children, whose infancy as well as number demanded a father's protection and guardianship.

But such observations belong to the Sermon rather than the Memoir, and become the Pulpit better than the Periodical. The reader, therefore, is referred to a Sermon, commemorative of God's goodness, and the Benefactions of the Duchess Dudley and her daughter Alicia, the lawful wife and child of Sir Robert Dudley*.

Whatever, therefore, may appear in this Paper too concessory to talent, too neglectful of religious truth, too laudatory of intellectual, too indifferent to or suppressive

* Preached by Vaughan Thomas, as Vicar of Stoneleigh, June 4, 1854.

of moral and religious distinctions, will find its corrective in the Anniversary Sermon referred to, wherein it has been one object of the Preacher to uphold the dignity of Christian virtue, and make sin appear *exceeding sinful*.

It supplies no grounds for the excuse or palliation of such sins as these to allege, (to the disgrace of the Peerage in those days,) that there prevailed a heartless and frontless intercourse between noble men and noble women in married life. Vicious example, however frequent, changes nothing as to the nature of vice. Adultery will for ever continue a breach of God's commandment. Acts of Parliament can never repeal Scriptural duties; and such crimes will for ever hang as millstones about the necks of the guilty, to sink them deep not only into an abyss of suffering from self-condemnation, but also into a depth of turmoils and perplexities, arising out of doubtful relationships and questionable liabilities, and the uncertainty of filial and parental obligations.

To his unquestionable bravery, indefatigable diligence, compass of knowledge, and talents of the first order, there was added an aptitude for business, which no diversities of employment could perplex; for in no service which he undertook, civil or military, foreign or domestic, literary or scientific, was he ever found to be unequal to, or unfit for, its performance: but, unfortunately, that temper and spirit which, though subdued to smiles and courtesy in Queen Elizabeth's presence, still rankled in Leicester's bosom—the same which brought his grandfather to the block, and his great grandfather to the gallows; (for John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, and Dudley, Henry the Seventh's fiscal counsellor, were both violent men, desperate in their measures, and immoveable in their determinations;) so that he possessed a sort of hereditary unruliness of temper, which the stinging sense of his usage, and the provocations of insult and in-

justice, were not unlikely to inflame into partial derangement. The psychological writers inform us, that there is a sort of vicious lunacy, the result of the indulgence of profligate purposes; and it may be charitably supposed, that his disturbances and distractions of thought, acting upon constitutional impatience of temper, produced at once aberrations of reason, and forgetfulness of God's commandments and Christian duties. An eminent writer on Lunacy in the present day has under unsoundness of mind included all passions not subject to the control of reason: his statement may be theologically true, (*ira furor brevis est*,) but juridically it is most dangerous. It is said in the Romance of the Peerage, that "Dudley felt bitterly the imputation that rested on his birth, and higher feelings than those of vanity or pride may have been wounded and exasperated by the issue of his attempt to establish his legitimacy; an indignant sense of injustice may have raised the impatience with which he had hitherto borne the stigma of bastardy, to an indignation which no bonds would restrain."

To shew the pertinacity with which Dudley adhered to his resolution of establishing his legitimacy, even after the Star Chamber had robbed him of his means of establishing it by locking up the depositions which had been taken, a letter (obtained from the British Museum, Hickes' Papers, B. M. Lansd. MS. L. XXXIX. 52.) which he addressed to a Gentleman named Atie, dated Stonly, Nov. 2, 1605, will be added.

"Mr. Atie, I remember my best love unto you, as to one of the truest lovers of my father, and me for his sake. I am sure you here of my proceeding to prove my legitimatie, and the counsellis authoritie for me to proceade in the Arches; for as much as I understode by Mr. Barker deade that you wer accwainted with an instrument my father made of this last reputed mariage, under the handes and seales and othes of them that were at it, and is thought that he might procuer

a sentence of the same secretly from Doctor Auberie, to collor ought better, which after he seriously repented that matter. Now because this poynte being known is of littell effect : a mariage prouved good before it, yet not known the same might doe harme in proceeding, wherefore I pray you most earnestlie, that you will acquainte this bearer, Mr. Ward, my Proctor, with your directions therein of the substance of the Deede, and if there were sentence in what kind and what parties made, and about what yeares to be sought for.

“This cortesie I desier most earnestlie from you, as one I desier to love as nearlie as my father did. I knowe you refused my father to be anie actor in this matter, but in his nearness to you, he acquainted you with it, which was not to be avoyded. So resting most assured of your love to me, I committe you to your happiest desiers, from Stonly, this 2 of November, 1605.

Your verie faythfull frende,
Ro. DUDDELEY.”

Without stopping to correct Sir Robert's orthography, (it may be the mistakes he made from over anxiety,) I proceed to remark, first, that this date of his letter from Stoneleigh, Nov. 2, 1605, shews, that the assertion, that he left England immediately after the Star Chamber decision, *circa* May 15, 1605, is not true; and, secondly, that at that date he had not run away with Elizabeth Southwel, and abandoned his wife and children. Thirdly, (and this third point must be a little more closely attended to,) in his letter Dudley says, “you (Mr. Atie) wer accwainted with an instrument my father made of this last reputed mariage, under the handes and scales and othes of them that were at it.” Now it appears to me, that this refers to what has been before quoted from Camden, ed. 1639, p. 278; “it was said that he married Essex's widow secretly, Sir Francis Knollys her

father, who was well acquainted with the vagrant nature of Leicester's amours, *vagos amores*, was unwilling to trust him, fearing lest he should deceive his daughter; the marriage, therefore, was solemnized in his own presence, together with a few witnesses, and *a notary public*." It appears that Dudley had become acquainted with the existence of some notarial attestation of this pretended marriage with Letitia Knollys, and wanted to obtain a copy of it. The Doctor Auberie, mentioned in Dudley's letter, may have been the very notary, so cleverly introduced by the wary Sir Francis Knollys, to defeat Leicester's dexterity in denying and getting rid of marriage vows. It is not likely that such an instrument would have passed out of Knollys's own custody, and therefore it was vain to look for it in any office of Record.

There is another point, which, though unconnected with Dudley's letter, and the supposed existence of this attestation of Leicester's marriage with Letitia Knollys, is important, as connected with his residence at Florence, namely, as to when it began. He is found at Stoneleigh, Nov. 2, 1605. He had obtained King James's license to travel for three years. Did he immediately proceed to Florence, and there become a resident? Of this nothing is known, but much may be inferred from what may be called Florentine documents. We are greatly helped in our conclusions, first, by his purchase of a house at Florence, April 5, 1611; secondly, by Sir David Foulis's evidence as to the authorship of the pamphlet *about bridling Parliaments*, by which it appeared, that Dudley had written it at Florence in 1612. Dr. Cornachini's work about the Warwick Powder was dedicated to him as Earl of Warwick; that is, before 1620, when he became Duca di Nortombria: the Doctor tells us, that he received his information about it four years before, that is, in 1616. It may perhaps be safely concluded, that he was a resident at Florence

at the time when the Crown seized the property left him by his father; and that his book about bridling Parliaments was intended to propitiate James I., and bring about the restoration of his property. He was compelled to give up his noble inheritance of Kenilworth, Nov. 1611: so that there is accessible evidence enough to make it probable, that he was living at Florence, as Earl of Warwick, about nine years before he became *il Duca di Nortumbria*; and this will very well accord with his connection with his first Patron, Cosmo II. Grand Duke of Florence, who was born, according to Imhoff, p. 112, May 12, 1590, and died Feb. 28, 1621.

Among the many uncertainties which surround the acts of Sir Robert Dudley, the want of dates is one of the most perplexing; that of his marriage with the daughter of Sir Thomas Leigh, is one which (under the neglect of registration, which so generally prevailed in those days) must be sought for by direct and necessary consequence, arising out of the birth of the first child after marriage. This child was born at Kenilworth; but though the Parish Register of that date is wanting, (having been lost or destroyed during the confusion of the great Rebellion,) the omission is most satisfactorily supplied by a private memorandum, made by the Vicar of Stoneleigh. But before I cite that memorandum, I will consider the course and order of the two marriages of Sir Robert Dudley; first, with a daughter of Thomas Cavendish, Esq. the great navigator; and secondly, with Alicia Leigh.

The Author of the *Romance of the Peerage*, whose accuracy of reference I have had already occasion to attest, observes, (vol. iii. p. 112,) that Sir Robert Dudley, after the death of his first wife, one of the three daughters of Thomas Cavendish—but whether it was Mary, Beatrice, or Margaret, is unknown—married, for his second wife, Alice, daughter of

Sir Thomas Leigh of Stoneleigh, the first having died probably within the year of her marriage. The Author then proceeds to say, that this took place before the end of the Reign of Elizabeth, *probably indeed some years before*.

In support of this view, I find among the Manuscripts in the Ashmolean Collection, (Dugdale's MSS. p. 144. H. Ashmol. Mus.) a statement made to Sir William Dugdale, by the Rev. Edward Maunsel, Vicar of Stoneleigh, May 1, 1637, that Alicia Douglassa, Sir Robert Dudley's eldest daughter, was baptized at Kenilworth the 25th of Sept. 1597, and was buried May 21, 1621. She was therefore about 24; an age which well agrees with the facts stated on the tomb, that she died before marriage, and left her property to her mother for charitable uses.

With respect to the course of events which led to Sir Robert Dudley's marriage with Alicia, daughter of Sir Thomas Leigh, it appears, that Sir Robert Dudley returned from his Trinidad voyage in May, 1595; that he shortly afterwards married, for his first wife, one of the three before-named daughters of T. Cavendish, the famous navigator; that he married his second wife (Sir Thomas Leigh's second daughter) in 1596, and that his first child by that marriage was Alicia Douglassa, being according to the account given by the Vicar of Stoneleigh, as above referred to, baptized at Kenilworth, Sept. 25, 1597. It is probable that all the daughters were born at Kenilworth, because the youngest, Catharine, afterwards relict of Sir Richard Levison, had the engraving of Kenilworth Castle, found in Dugdale's Warwickshire, p. 160, ed. 1656, dedicated to her *as a memorial of her birthplace, in laris natalitii memoriam*. If therefore the youngest and the eldest daughters were born at Kenilworth, it is reasonable to suppose that the others were born there too; first, because Kenilworth had become the property of Sir Robert Dudley in 1589; and, secondly, because he had settled the jointure of

his wife Alicia upon the woods of Kenilworth ; and such was the lien of that jointure upon the property, as to require an Act of Parliament to enable her afterwards to sell her jointured estate in the lifetime of her husband.

In these disentanglements of dates, this question must have occurred to the reader, Was there no matrimonial, baptismal, or burial registration in those days ? In rare instances, there are parishes in England, like that of Wood Eaton, Oxon. in which Registers are to be found even from 1538, the date of the Injunctions by Cromwell, in Henry VIIIth's time ; but having become much neglected, it appears from Strype, (*Annals*, 1570, *Record*, No. 34.) that it was proposed to Lord Burleigh, " that there should be a general Register kept of christenings, marriages, and burials ;" and as reasons for such a keeping, it was stated, " that the entrance of baptism would be a clear decyphering of all half bloods or controversies, daily happening under colour of half or whole blood, and that it would be a curb for those who pretended to be sundry times married." The proposal however appears to have slept until Nov. 18, 1597, when Convocation ordered, " that for the better keeping of the book of christenings, burials, and marriages, the Injunctions already provided should be given in charge at all Visitations, to be straitly and orderly kept in every parish, and that for the more credit of the Record in this behalf, the Register Book hereafter should be in parchment, in a fair legible hand, and so certified in every Bishop's Visitation, as to the names of such as had been christened, buried, or married, between one Visitation and another ; and farther, that on every Sunday next after any such christenings, marriages, or burials, all the names entered into the said book the week before, with the day of the month thereof, should be read publicly in the Church, out of the said Parchment Book."

There were some Parishes who had procured these parchment Registers before the year 1597 ; for instance, that of the

Parish of Yarnton begins 1567, and, as it appears, has been very regularly kept, and (under recent legislations) to the present day; but as to the old system, it was altogether conducted under Episcopal authority, and without any Parliamentary pains and penalties to quicken attention and compel observance. Hence officiating Ministers in some Parishes were too much under the control of the great, faithfully and firmly to do their duty in these respects; and as to marriages, it may be said, that nothing seems to have controlled and compelled their proper solemnization, till the Marriage Act of 1754; and if any thing was wanting to prove the importance, I may say the necessity, of these Registration provisions, especially in the reigns of Elizabeth and James, it will be found abundantly in Mr. Craig's interesting volume of the Romance of the Peerage, and the frequent bigannies, and attempts at bigamy, which disgraced the annals of the Dudleys^a.

But to revert to the question of dates, and especially as to the time when he first settled in Florence.

It has been clearly shewn, that July 6, 1605, the date of the close of the Law-suit, as stated in the Talbot Papers, and which has been generally assigned as the date of Sir Robert Dudley's leaving England with Elizabeth Southwell,

^a The Rev. Dr. Boreman, Rector of St. Giles's in the Fields, who preached Duchess Dudley's Funeral Sermon, reminds the *candid reader* in the account he gave of the Duchess's charities, *that whenever he meets with the name of Dudley, to read Duddleley*; adding, *we find by a late subscription under her hand, that as she wrote, so her name was to be read and spelt*. By referring to Sir Robert Dudley's letter to Mr. Atey, as before given, he signs his name Duddleley, not Dudley. It is also written Duddleley in the Beauchamp Chapel, Warwick, upon the Tomb of Ambrose, Earl of Warwick, who died in 1589. Those who love to take their spelling from the slabs of tomb-stones and the parchments of pedigrees, may continue to spell the name Duddleley; but the orthography of History throughout the beheadings and restorations, the ups and downs of the family, has always been Dudley.

is decidedly erroneous, as it has been shewn by the date of his letter to Mr. Atey, before given, that he was at Stoneleigh, Nov. 2, 1605.

The British Museum has not only furnished me with this evidence, but it has also helped me, although not so clearly, in my endeavour to find out the date of his first coming to Florence to reside.

This document is found among the Caesar collections: (Brit. Mus. Lansd. MS. clxv. fo. 201.) it is headed thus,

“A breefe note, as well of certaine debtes, of Sir Robert Duddeley, Knight, which William Dyneley, gent. is engaged for to divers men hereonder mencoined by bondes, as for divers somes of money by him disbursed and paide for the saide Sir Robert, as by the bondes remayneinge with the saide men and his owne accomptes perticulerlie appeareth.”

Without going through the whole of these accounts, amounting to £1619 11s. 6d. it will be sufficient to extract the sum of £200 for Sir Robert Dudley's “iourney to Ligorne, with three more with him, beinge forth v monethes.”

The above document is endorsed May 29, 1613, the only date to be found throughout the document.

It thus becomes a question as to this debt of £200, “to pay for *his iourney to Ligorne, with three more with him,*” whether it refers to his voyage to Leghorn from England, and thence to Florence, at his first settling in Florence, or to some journey or voyage before or after it. Be that as it may, this 1613, coupled with the dates already given, which are all more or less cotemporaneous with it, may enable us to say, that he was a resident at Florence about the year 1613, but how long before must be still left in uncertainty. The absence of a date from this debt of £200, may raise the

question, whether *this sum to take him to Ligorne, with three more with him*, may not have been borrowed to pay the expenses of his elopement with Elizabeth Southwell: he bought his house at Florence in 1614.

A SYNOPSIS OF DATES,

APPERTAINING TO, AND ILLUSTRATIVE OF, THIS MEMOIR.

- Aug. 18, 1510. Edmund Dudley, Fiscal Counsellor of Henry VII.
father of the Duke of Northumberland, beheaded.
- Aug. 22, 1553. John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, father of
Lord Guildford Dudley, beheaded.
- Feb. 12, 1551. Lord Guildford Dudley, his youngest son, beheaded.
- March, 1558. Ambrose and Robert Dudley, sons of the Duke of
Northumberland, restored to their blood, having been
attainted.
- Nov. 17, 1558. Queen Elizabeth came to the Throne.
- Sept. 8, 1560. Amy Robsart, wife of the Earl of Leicester, murdered
at Cunnor.
1562. Ambrose Dudley made Earl of Warwick.
1572. Earl of Leicester supposed to have married the Lady Douglas
Sheffield.
1573. Sir Robert Dudley born at Shene, now Richmond, in Surrey.
- July, 1575. Leicester entertained Queen Elizabeth at Kenilworth.
- Aug. 21, 1576. Walter Devereux, Earl of Essex, died.
- Till 1576. Sir Robert Dudley was treated by the Earl of Leicester as
his legitimate son. In 1576, he connected himself with the
widow of the Earl of Essex, and ceased to do so.
1576. Mons. Simier, to damage the Earl of Leicester in Queen
Elizabeth's opinion, told her of his marriage with Letty
Knollys: she being enraged, confined him in Greenwich
Castle.
1583. Sir Robert Dudley lived with his mother, Lady Douglas Sheffield,
after he had connected himself with Lettice Knollys. But
Lady Sheffield afterwards gave him up to Leicester, who
sent him to school at Oflington, Sussex; the boy was then
10 years old.

- Dec. 1585. Earl of Leicester went to the Low Countries, as Governor General.
1586. Leicester formed a conspiracy to seize Leyden, and employed as his agents Cosmo and De Maulde, who were executed. Leicester having denied their agency.
- Aug. 1, 1587. Earl of Leicester's Will dated at Middleburgh.
- Nov. 1587. Leicester was recalled from the Low Countries.
1588. Leicester sent his son to Christ Church in the beginning of this year, and entered him there as *Comitis filius*, when about 15 years old.
- Sept. 1, 1588. Earl of Leicester died at Cornbury.
- Sir Robert Dudley came into possession of Kenilworth a little more than a year after his father's death, that is, upon the death of his uncle, the Earl of Warwick.
- Feb. 21, 1589. Ambrose Dudley, Earl of Warwick, died at Bedford House, London.
- Nov. 1591. Sir Robert Dudley set out upon his Voyage to Trinidad; he was about 21 years old.
1595. He named an island in the Oronoko—Dudleyana.
- May, 1595. Sir Robert Dudley returned from his Voyage to Trinidad.
- Circa 1595. Sir Robert Dudley married one of the three daughters of Thomas Cavendish, Esq. the great Navigator, after his return from his Voyage.
- 1595 or 1596. She shortly after died.
- June 20, 1596. Sir Robert Dudley landed with the Army of the Earl of Essex at Cadiz.
- July 5, 1596. Sir Robert Dudley was Knighted, for his gallantry at Cadiz.
1596. The Fleet returned to England from Cadiz the beginning of August.
1596. Sir Robert Dudley married Alice, second daughter of Sir Thomas Leigh, Knight, and Baronet of Stoneleigh, Warwickshire.
- Sept. 25, 1597. Alicia Douglassa, his first child, was baptized at Kenilworth, as recorded by Rev. Edward Maunsel, Vicar of Stoneleigh, in his Letter to Sir William Dugdale. She died May 31, 1621.

Feb. 8, 1598. A Deed of Bargain and Sale executed by Sir John Throckmorton and others, whereby the Manor of Ladbroke was conveyed to Sir Robert Dudley, Knt. and Dame Alice his wife, and to the heirs of the said Sir Robert Dudley. This Deed Sir W. Dugdale saw among the Papers of William Palmer, Esq. of Ladbroke.

Feb. 10, 1603. The Countess of Leicester filed a Bill against Sir Robert Dudley in the Star Chamber for Defamation.

March 21, 1603. James I. came to the Throne.

Oct. 18, 1603. Lord Sydney of Penshurst, who had married Mary Dudley, sister of the Earl of Leicester, stopped proceedings at Lichfield, and brought all the Depositions taken into the Star Chamber.

1604. *An Act to restrain all persons from marriage, until their former wives and former husbands be dead.* The Act goes on to recite that such offence is felony, punishable by death. (1 Jac. I. c. 11.)^a

May 13, 1605. The Law-suit ended: the Star Chamber pronounced against Sir Robert Dudley; and he is said in the Talbot Papers (see Lodge's Illustrations, vol. iii. p. 295.) to have left England. An Error.

1605. He tried in vain to get the sentence altered.

It is said in the Romance of the Peerage, that he left London for the Continent the beginning of July, 1605. An Error.

Nov. 2, 1605. Sir Robert Dudley at Stoneleigh.

1608. Ferdinand I. Grand Duke of Tuscany, died.

^a The Preamble to the Act says, "Forasmuch as divers evil disposed persons being married run out of one country into another, or into places where they are not known, and there become to be married, having another husband or wife living, to the great dishonour of God, and utter undoing of divers honest men's children and others; Be it enacted, &c." For the bold unflinching effrontery with which the act had been committed by the high-born in the land, that instructive calendar of crime, "the Romance of the Peerage," sufficiently proves. Had Leicester's marriage with Letty Knollys taken place after 1604, instead of before it, (that is, in 1576,) his head might have been laid on the block, or suspended by a rope, by the wrath of Queen Elizabeth, instead of being confined to Greenwich Castle by her resentful order, which immediately followed as soon as she became acquainted with Leicester's bigamy.

- Nov. 21, 1611. The Kenilworth property forcibly sold to Prince Henry for £14,500, which was never paid: it had been valued, but much below its value, at £38,550.
1613. Dudley wrote his Book about Bridling Parliaments; it is supposed to conciliate King James I.
1614. The Lord Herbert of Cherbury saw him living at Florence sumptuously and influentially.
1619. Ferdinand II. Emperor of Germany, came to the Throne.
- February 1620. Cosmo II. first Patron of Sir Robert Dudley, died.
1620. Date of the Patent of King James I. conveying Landed Augmentations to the Six Vicarages.
- March 9, 1620. Diploma of the Emperor of Germany, giving the titles of Duke of Northumberland and Earl of Warwick to Sir Robert Dudley and his Heirs male.
- Circa 1620. Dr. Cornachini, Physician of Pisa, publishes his praise of the Warwick Powder.
- Sept. 14, 1620. Date of the Brief of James's Letters Patent, as entered in a Register book of Stoneleigh, settling the Duchess's landed Donations to the Vicars of the six Parishes.
- Feb. 28, 1621. Cosmo II. Dudley's first Patron, died.
- March 5, 1621. Patent granted to pay Alice Lady Dudley £4,000, for all her interest in Kenilworth Property;
- May 4, 1621. The Act of Parliament for enabling Duchess Dudley to sell her jointure of £14,000 upon the Kenilworth Woods, notwithstanding the life of her husband.
- Circa May 4, 1621. Lady Dudley sold her interest in the Woods of Kenilworth, as a feme sole: she only received £4,000 for it.
- Sept. 15, 1622. John Digby, Earl of Bristol, was Ambassador from James I. to the Emperor of Germany, who gave Dudley the title of Duke.
1622. Date of Entry of King James's Letters Patent in the Stoneley Register.
- Dec. 21, 1624. Letitia, the pretended wife of the Earl of Leicester, died, and was buried in the Beauchamp Chapel, Warwick.
1625. Duchess Dudley largely contributed to the rebuilding St. Giles's Church, and surrounding it with a wall.

1629. Anna Dudleia, Sir Robert Dudley's illegitimate daughter by Elizabeth Southwell, buried in St. Pancras Church, Florence.
1630. Sir Robert Dudley published his celebrated work called the *Arcano del Mare* for the first time.
- Pope Urban VIII. gave Sir Robert Dudley the power of creating Nobles.
- Dec. 21, 1634. Earl of Leicester by Will gave Sir Robert Dudley Long Itchingdon, after the death of Letitia Knollys, who died Dec. 21, 1634. Sir Robert Dudley instituted a suit at law, to recover these properties before he died in 1649.
1638. Sir Robert Dudley's Letter in the Grand Duke's Palace: recites the names of his sons at that time—Carlo, Ambrogio, Ferdinando, Antonio, Enrico, and a daughter Teresa.
- July 5, 1641. The Star Chamber put down by the Commons. There was no second reading of the Bill to that effect.
- Aug. 19, 1642. Charles I. upon being refused admission at Coventry, was received at Stoneleigh Abbey.
- March 21, 1645. Sir Thomas Leigh of Stoneleigh made Lord Leigh.
- May 23, 1645. Alice, wife of Sir Robert Dudley, made a Duchess, with the precedence of Duke's children to her daughters.
- Sept. 6, 1649. Sir Robert Dudley died at Carbello, two miles from Florence.
1660. The honour and title of Duchess Dudley was confirmed by Charles II. with Duke's precedence to her daughters.
- Catherine and Anne Dudley revived the suit in Chancery, which Sir Robert had begun before he died in 1649, to recover their father's estates of Balshall and Long Itchingdon, which the Sydneys of Penshurst had taken possession of, as descended from the Earl of Leicester's sister, Mary Dudley, and claiming under an entail, which, however, the Earl had revoked in his last Will. The Law-suit ended in favour of Sir Robert Dudley's daughters, a little before the Restoration.
1661. The *Arcano del Mar* reprinted, and dedicated to Ferdinand II. Grand Duke of Tuscany.
1663. Lady Anne Holburn, third daughter of Sir Robert Dudley, died.
- Jan. 22, 1669. Duchess Dudley, widow of Sir Robert Dudley, died at her house in the parish of St. Giles's in the Fields, London.

- March 14, 1669. Duchess Dudley's Funeral Sermon preached by the
Rev. Dr. Boreman, Rector of St. Giles's in the Fields.
- May, 1670. Ferdinand II. Grand Duke of Tuscany, second Patron of
Sir Robert Dudley, died.
- Oct. 17, 1673. Carlo, the second Duke of Northumberland, (Duca di
Nortombria,) gave Ant. Wood all the foreign particulars he
has recorded in the Athenæ by letter from Rome.
- Dec. 10, 1673. The Will of the Lady Catharine Levison dated.
The Right Honourable the Lady Levison died.



*Second daughter of Sir Thomas Wigh
 of Monkeath, Wigh, Bart.
 Wife of Sir Robert Dudley, son
 of Robert Dudley, 1st Earl of
 Warwick*

APPENDIX.

It is due to the virtues of a long life, and especially to its studies how to improve the condition of the poor and afflicted, and it is also due to those large dedications of worldly wealth which characterize the Duchess Dudley's munificence, to append to this Memoir some authentic documents relating to the daughters, as well as wife, of Sir Robert Dudley. For one commanding feature may be said to characterize them both in their lives and deaths; that is, in all they did and bequeathed, gave or left in trust, for pious and charitable purposes. It was energetic and multifarious good-will to man. And, first, as to

ALICIA, SECOND DAUGHTER OF SIR THOMAS LEIGH OF STONELEIGH, DUCHESS DUDLEY.

The Patent for creating Alice Lady Dudley a Duchess of England. See Dugdale's Baronage, vol. ii. p. 225, and the Note in the margin, which says that he copied it from the original in the possession of Catharine Lady Levison, 1670.

Charles, by the grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defender of the faith, &c. To all Archbishops, Dukes, Marquesses, Earls, Viscounts, Bishops, Barons, Knights, and all other our loving subjects, to whom these our Letters shall come, greeting. Whereas in or about the beginning of the Reign of our dear father King James, of famous memory, there was a sute^a

^a The Law proceedings began soon after Sir Robert Dudley's marriage with Sir Thomas Leigh's daughter; and they began by Sir Robert's allegation of his legitimacy, and his taking steps to prove it; and by proceeding to do so by a course of evidence regularly brought into Court, with a view to a trial at law. It was a masterpiece of crafty contrivance on the part of Letitia, Lord Leicester's widow, and her advisers, (of whom Sir Edward Cooke was one,) to bring an action against Sir Robert

commenced, in our high Court of Star-Chamber, against Sir Robert Dudley, Knight, and others, for pretending himself to be lawfull heir to the honours and lands of the Earldoms of Warwick and Leicester, as son and heir of the body of Robert late Earl of Leicester, lawfully begotten upon the Lady Douglass her mother, wife to the late Earl of Leicester, and all proceedings stayed in the Ecclesiastical Courts, in which the said sute depended, for proof of his legitimation: yet nevertheless did the said Court vouchsafe liberty to the said Sir Robert, to examine witnesses in the said Court of Star-Chamber, in order to the making good of his legitimacy; divers witnesses were examin'd there accordingly. Whereupon, by full testimony upon oath, partly made by the said Lady Douglass her self, and partly made by divers other persons of quality and credit, who were present at the marriage with the said late Earl of Leicester, by a lawfull Minister, according to the form of Matrimony then by law established in the Church of England; and the said Sir Robert and his mother were owned by the said late Earl of Leicester as his lawfull wife and son, as by many of the said depositions remaining upon record, in our said Court, still appear, which we have caused to be perused, for our better satisfaction herein. But a special order being made, that the said depositions should be seal'd up, and no copies thereof taken without leave, did cause him the said Sir Robert to leave this our kingdom; whereof his adversaries taking advantages procured a special Privy-seal to be sent unto him, commanding his return into England; which he not obeying, (because his honour and lands were denied unto him,) all his lands were therefore seiz'd on to the King our father's use.

And not long afterwards, Prince Henry (our dear brother deceas'd) made overture to the said Sir Robert, by special instruments, to obtain his title by purchase of and in Kenilworth Castle, in our county of Warwick, and his manors, parks, and chace belonging to the same; which, upon a great undervalue, amounted (as we are credibly informed) to about fifty thousand pounds; but were bought by the Prince our brother in consideration of fourteen thousand five hundred

and his wife, against Lady Sheffield his mother, (at that time Lady Stafford,) against Sir Thomas Leigh, his wife's father, and all the principal witnesses in Sir Robert Dudley's suit, for a conspiracy against the person and property of Letitia Dowager Countess of Leicester. This is the suit referred to.

pounds, and upon his faithful engagement and promise of his princely favour unto the said Sir Robert in the said cause, to restore him both in honours and fortunes. And thereupon certain deeds were seal'd in the ninth year of the reign of our said father, and fines also were then levyed, settling the inheritance thereof in the said Prince our brother, and his heirs.

But, the said Prince our brother departing this life, there was not above three thousand pounds of the said sum of fourteen thousand five hundred pounds ever paid (if any at all) to the said Sir Robert's hands; and we our selves, as heir to the said Prince our brother, came to the possession thereof.

And it appearing to our Council, that the said Alice Lady Dudley, wife of the said Sir Robert, had an estate of inheritance of and in the same descendable unto her posterity; in the nineteenth year of our said dear father's reign, an Act of Parliament was passed to enable the said Lady Alice, wife to the said Sir Robert, to alien her estate^b, which she had by the said Sir Robert therein, from her children by the said Sir Robert, as if she had been a feme sole, which accordingly she did in the nineteenth year of our said father's reign, in consideration of four thousand pounds, and further payments yearly to be made by us to her, out of our Exchequer, and out of the said castles and lands; which have not been accordingly paid unto her by us for many years, to the damage of the said Lady Alice and her children, to a very great extent.

Which Sir Robert settling himself in Italy, within the territories of the Great Duke of Tuscany, (from whom he had extraordinary esteem,) he was so much favoured by the Emperor Ferdinand the II.^e as that being a person, not only eminent for his great learning and blood, but for sundry rare endowments, (as was best known,) he had, by letters patents from his Imperial Majesty, the title of Duke given

^b The wife of Sir Robert Dudley had her jointure settled and secured to her upon the woods of Kenilworth, as at that time existing.

^c Magdalen, Archduchess of Austria, mother of Cosmo the Second, Grand Duke of Tuscany, (who retained Sir Robert at his Court, and shewed him great favour,) made Sir Robert her great Chamberlain. She was sister of Ferdinand the Second, Emperor of Germany, and without doubt was mainly instrumental in obtaining the Dukedom of Northumberland and Earldom of Warwick for Sir Robert, by Diploma from the Emperor.

unto him; to be used by himself and his heirs for ever, throughout all the dominions of the sacred Empire. Which letters patents have been perused by our late Earl-Marshal and Heralds.

And whereas our dear father, not knowing the truth of the lawful birth of the said Sir Robert, (as we piously believe,) granted away the titles of the said Earldoms to others^d, which we now hold not fit to call in question, nor ravel into our deceased father's actions; especially they having been so long enjoyed by those families, to whom the honours were granted, (which we do not intend to alter.) And yet, we having a very deep sense of the great injuries done to the said Sir Robert Dudley, and the Lady Alice Dudley, and their children; and that we are of opinion, that in justice and equity these possessions so taken from them do rightly belong unto them, or full satisfaction for the same; and holding ourselves in honour and conscience obliged to make them reparation now, as far as our present ability will enable us; and also taking into our consideration the said great estate, which she the said Lady Alice Dudley had in Kenilworth, and sold at our desire to us at a very great undervalue, and yet not perform'd or satisfied, to many thousand pounds damage.

And we also casting our princely eye upon the faithful services done unto us by Sir Richard Leveson^e, Knight of the Bath, who hath married the Lady Katherine, one of the daughters of the said Duke, by his said wife, the said Lady Alice Dudley; and also the great services which Robert Holburne, Esq. hath done to us, by his learned pen and otherwise, (which said Robert Holburne hath married the Lady Anne, one other of the daughters of the said Duke, by his said wife, the Lady Alice Dudley.)

We have conceived ourselves bound in honour and conscience, to give the said Lady Alice and her children such honour and precedencies, as is or are due to them in marriage or blood. And therefore we do not only give and grant, unto the said Lady Alice

^d To the son of Mary Dudley, sister of Ambrose Dudley, Earl of Warwick, and Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester. This Mary married Sir Henry Sidney, K. G. of Penshurst, and Robert, their second son, (the eldest Sir Philip having been killed at Zutphen,) was created Baron Sidney in 1603, Viscount de l'Isle in 1605, and Earl of Leicester in 1618. The Title became extinct in this family in 1743. This first Earl of Leicester, of Penshurst, joined Letitia Dowager Countess of Leicester in prosecuting Sir Robert Dudley and the others before named for conspiracy.

^e Of Trentham.

Dudley, the title of Duchess Dudley for her life, in England and other our realms and dominions, with such precedencies as she might have had, if she had lived in the dominions of the sacred empire; (as a mark of our favour unto her, and out of our Prerogative Royal, which we will not have drawn into dispute;) but we do also further grant unto the said Lady Katherine, and Lady Anne, her daughters, the places, titles, and precedencies of the said Duke's daughters, as from that time of their said father's creation, during their respective lives, not only in England, but in all other our kingdoms and dominions, as a testimony of our princely favour and grace unto them; conceiving ourselves oblig'd to do much more for them, if it were in our power, in these unhappy times of distraction.

And we require all persons of honour, and other our loving subjects, especially our Earl Marshall, Heralds, and Officers at Arms, to take notice of this our princely pleasure, and to govern themselves accordingly; and to cause the said places and precedencies to be quietly enjoyed, according to this our gracious intention, as they do tender our displeasure, and will answer the contempt thereof at their perils. And we farther command and require, that our said Heralds do make entry of this our pleasure and grant in their offices accordingly. In witness whereof we have caused these our Letters to be made Patent. Witness Ourself at Oxford, the three and twentieth day of May, in the twentieth year of our reign.

(L. S.)

An Account of the Pious and Charitable Acts and Gifts of the Duchess Dudley, the daughter of Sir Thomas Leigh, of Stoneleigh Abbey, Warwickshire. Extracted from her Funeral Sermon, preached in the Church of St. Giles in the Fields, by its Rector, the Rev. Robert Boreman, D.D. March 14, 1669.

I. Her charity began at the House of God, which was first in her thoughts, as it is usually the last, or not at all, in others.

When the former Church of St. Giles, which was decayed by age, lay as it were in rubbish, there being a void space at the upper end of the Chancel, which was stored with lumber, as the boards of coffins and dead men's bones; she being offended at that unhandsome prospect, erected a decent screen, to divide the said Chancel from

the forenamed place, and to hide it from the beholders' eyes, which could not but be troubled at it.

2. When the aforesaid Church was fallen, (with the fall whereof that screen was demolished,) God moved the hearts of the Parishioners to erect a new Church in the room or place of the former; which was in a few years effected and finished, many hundreds of good Christians in other Parishes contributing to so good and glorious a work; she most liberally (as she had a magnificent large soul) gave to the advance and finishing of it, together with the wall that encompasseth it, many £100; of which her magnificent bounty, the then grateful Parishioners erected a monument, which is placed over the great gate, or the north side of the Church. The words engraven in a large square stone are,

QUOD FELIX BONUMQUE SIT.

POSTERIS

HOC TEMPLUM, LOCO VETERIS EX ANNOSA

VETUSTATE

COLLAPSI, MOLE ET SPLENDORE AUCTUM

MULTO, PARDECORUM CHARITAS

INSTAURAVIT

IN QUIBUS PIENTISSIMÆ HEROINÆ

D. ALICIE DUDDELEY

MUNIFICENTIA GRATUM MARMORIS HUIUS

MERETUR ELOQUIUM.

HUIC ETIAM ACCESSIT ALIORUM QUORUNDAM

PIETAS

QUIBUS PROVISÆ IN CŒLO SUNT GRATES.

HEUS! VIATOR—

AN EFFETUM

EST BONIS

OPERIBUS HOC

SÆCULUM.

3. The Church being finished, (which is a large goodly fabric,) that the inside of it might correspond with that which is without, she gave hangings of watched taffety, to cover the upper part of the Chancel, and those bordered with a silk and silver fringe. For the back of the Altar, a rich green velvet cloth, with these three letters in gold IHS embroidered on it.

Two Service books in folio, embossed with gold.

A green velvet cloth, with a rich deep gold fringe, to cover the Altar on Sundays.

A cambric Altar-cloth, with a deep bonelace round about.

Another fine damask Altar-cloth.

Two cushions for the Altar, richly embroidered with gold.

A large Turkey carpet, to be spread on the week days over it.

A beautiful screen of carved work, which was placed where the former in the old Church stood.

Moreover she gave a neat pair of organs, with a case richly gilded.

Item, Very costly handsome rails, to guard the Altar or Lord's Table from profane abuses.

Item, The Communion Plate, of all sorts, in silver or gilt, for that sacred use, which is as large and rich as any in the city and suburbs.

Besides all this, she was at the charge of paying the upper end of the Church with marble stones.

And gave the great bell in the steeple, which as oft as it rings sounds her praise; and was at the charge of casting and hanging the other five bells.

Only this bell and the foresaid plate excepted, all the forenamed ornaments of the Church (being counted superstitious and popish) were demolished and sold (under a pretence of relieving the poor out of the money received for them) by the deforming reformers (as they were called) in the late bloody rebellious times. But the Church has since been by our care rebeautified, though not in the same high degree and manner as before specified.

4. She gave long since to the Church of Stonely, in Warwickshire, (where her sacred body lies now entombed,) as also to the Churches of Mancetter, Leke Wotton, Ashow, Kenilworth, and Monks Kirby, £20 and upwards per annum apiece for a perpetual augmentation to the poor Vicarages of those respective Churches for ever.

5. Moreover, she bestowed on the same Churches, and likewise upon the Churches of Bidford in the foresaid county of Warwick, Aeton in Middlesex, S. Albans in Hertfordshire, Patshill in Northampton, divers pieces of fair and costly plate, to be used at the celebration of the Holy Communion in each of them.

6. And besides all this, she purchased a fair house and garden near the Church of St. Giles aforesaid, and gave it for a perpetual Mansion to the Incumbents, after three lives, whereof two are expired^f.

7. She also allowed a yearly stipend to the Sexton of that Church, to toll the great bell when the prisoners condemned to die were passing by, and to ring out after they were executed.

^f See Notices of the Duchess during her residence in Dudley House in the parish of St. Giles's in the Fields.

8. She likewise gave great sums of money for the repairing of the Cathedral Church at Litchfield, and for the re-edifying of St. Sepulchre here in London.

All these (with many more of a lesser magnitude) were the products or fruits of her great charity whilst she lived; and thereby made (as wise men and women do) her own eyes her own overseers, and her own hands her executors.

At her death she made these following bequests: namely,

1. For the redemption of Christian captives from the hands of infidels, one hundred pounds per annum for ever*.

2. To the Hospital situate near the Church here in St. Giles's, four hundred pounds, for twenty pounds a year for ever*.

3. For the placing out for ever of poor parish children of St. Giles's apprentices, two hundred pounds, to purchase a piece of land at ten pounds per annum, and two to be put out every year*.

4. To the poor of the foresaid Stoneley, Kenilworth, Leke-Wotton, Ashow, Bidford, and Patshill aforesaid, and also of Lich-borrow and Blakesley in the county of Northampton, one hundred pounds per annum, to be disposed and distributed among them in such sort or manner, as her Will doth direct her executrix.

5. And upon the day of her funeral, fifty pounds to be distributed among the poor of St. Giles's and other adjoining parishes.

6. She bequeathed to fourscore and ten widows, (according to the number of the years she lived,) to each one a gown and fair white kerchief, to attend the hearse wherein her body was carried, and one shilling apiece for their dinner after that solemnity was performed, which was on the 16th day of March, 1668.

7. She appointed by her Will, five pounds to be given to every place or town where her corpse should rest in its passage from London unto Stoneley, (as aforesaid,) in Warwickshire, where she hath a noble monument long since prepared by herself.

8. She ordered, that six pence should be given to every poor body that should meet her corpse on the road.

9. She gave to Blacksley, Litchborough, and Patshill aforesaid, ten pounds apiece to be distributed among the poor the same day her corpse was interred.

10. To the parish of Stoneley, fifty pounds, which was distributed the same day.

* See Notices of the Duchess during her residence in Dudley House, St. Giles.

Thus our illustrious Duchess did in her life, and at her death; and doubtless for all her good deeds she has her reward in Heaven, by God's mercy and Christ's merits. Whom that short and ingenious epitaph would befit, which is inscribed on the learned Isaac Causabon's monument in Westminster Abbey. Admit of it thus, with the alteration of a name and word.

Reader,

Wouldst thou the famous Duchess Dudley know,
Read not her Monument, (that's far below
Her merits,) but her acts, which with her name,
Carried on the nimble wings of fame,
Will profit those that shall hereafter come,
And last when marbles have their fatal doom.

Qui nosse vult
Ducissimam Duddeleiam
Non saxa, sed facta legat,
Superfutura marmori
et
Profutura posteris.

To the former catalogue of her innumerable acts of charity, let the Epicedium be added as a closing Epilogue.

When greatness with a long spent age,
And goodness joined fill up the page
Of her due praises, we may say,
That unkind death has snatched away
A Phoenix of her sex, and in whose breast
The graces dwelt and made their nest.
O! from her noble ashes may there rise
A generation to immortalize
Whatever of virtue bears the name,
Whilst what she did, they do the same.

Floruit, Floret, ac Florebit.

I shall desire the candid reader, whenever he meets with the name of Dudley, to read Duddeley. We find by a late subscription under her hand, that as she wrote, so her name is to be read and spelled.

There is one thing more of no small concern which hath been omitted, but must for a close of all be subjoined to what hath been briefly said concerning her pedigree.

As her Grace was the second daughter of Sir Thomas Leigh of Stoneley in Warwickshire, Knight and Baronet, so her mother was Catharine, a most virtuous Lady, daughter to Sir John Spencer of Wormleighton, Knight, great grandfather to the Right Honourable now Earl of Sunderland, &c.

The foresaid Sir Thomas had by his Lady Catharine issue, John Leigh, Knight, who was the father of the Lord Leigh, Baron of Stoneley, now living in the county of Warwick.

Extracts from the Rev. Dr. Boreman's Funeral Sermon.

Having extracted Dr. Boreman's account of the Duchess's Benefactions appended to his Sermon, it seems fit to add the concluding words of the Sermon itself, as addressed to his Parishioners of St. Giles's in the Fields, on the 14th of March, 1669.

“Clothe the backs of the poor, and feed the hungry bellies; adorn God's Houses, and contribute to the rebuilding of decayed, and, by war and fire, wasted Churches; endow poor Vicarages with annual accessions, or augmentations of large salaries; relieve poor Widows in hospitals by yearly pensions; give good and competent summes for the redemption of Christian captives, now chained up to slavery in the hands, or under the power, of infidels; and for placing out of poor Children or Orphans yearly to be apprentices. Honour your Ministers who are set over you in the Lord, especially those who labour in the Word, (1 Tim. v. 17.) i. e. take great pains to dispense the lively oracles of it, and administer frequently the holy Sacraments, for the edifying and saving of your souls; give what is due unto them, and take nothing by fraud or violence from them, and if they want an house to dwell in, provide one for them.”

The preacher says, “*that she made her own eyes her own overseers, and her own hands her executors.*” He finds in his recollections of the primitive history of the Christian Church, a comparison between what the Duchess had done for the poor, and what a Christian almoner had bestowed upon them in the fourth century, calling her *the English Paula*, that Roman Lady who founded Houses of Charity at Bethlehem, of which St. Jerome had the management. At page 12 of his Sermon, he says, “*As St. Austin referred those who desired to profit in virtue to the life and conversation of Paulinus, saying, Vade in Campaniam et disce Paulinum, (Go to Campania, and study Paulinus,) so would I say to any person that should desire to attain to some degree of perfection*

in grace, goodness, and piety, Vade ad Sancti Aegidii oppidum et disce Ducissam Dudleyam, (Go to St. Giles's, and enquire after the life and manners of Duchess Dudley,) and conform your life to her religious conversation.

Translation of the Inscription on Duchess Dudley's Tomb.

Duchess Dudley was buried in the Chancel of Stoneleigh Church, of which there is an Engraving in Dugdale's Warwickshire. Art. *Stoneleigh*. The Tomb is of marble, surmounted by a Duchess's Coronet.

Here lies interred the Body of Lady Alicia Duchess Dudley, second daughter of Sir Thomas Leigh, Knight and Baronet, relict of Sir Robert Dudley, Knight, lately deceased, son of Robert Earl of Leicester. His Most Serene Majesty Ferdinand the Second, Emperor of Germany, bestowed upon Sir Robert Dudley the title of Duke, for his distinguished merits. Alicia Dudley was lately raised to the title of Duchess, by Patent of His Majesty Charles the First. She had the following daughters—the Lady Alicia Douglassa, Frances, wife of Sir Gilbert Kniveton, Knight, Anne, wife of Sir Robert Holborn, Knight, a Benchet of Lincoln's Inn. These daughters died some time ago; but Catharine, relict of Sir Richard Levison, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Bath, is still alive. The Duchess Dudley was distinguished by her piety and charity, bestowing upon the Vicarage of Stoneleigh, Mancetter, Leke Wootten, Kenilworth, Monks Kirby, as also upon the Rectory of Ashow, all in the county of Warwick, twenty pounds a year each, for a perpetual augmentation of those poor Livings; and finally, and moreover, she bestowed some time ago upon Bideford in the said county of Warwick, Acton in the county of Middlesex, St. Alban's, county of Hertford, Patshull, county of Northampton, St. Giles's in the suburbs of London, different vessels of silver, of no small value. She also in her lifetime gave to the said Church of St. Giles's (having laid out much upon the new building of the same) a great bell, and settled a suitable house of residence upon the Rector. At her death she left a hundred pounds a year for the redemption of Christians in bondage to

the infidels. She moreover left to the Hospital in St. Giles's parish the sum of four hundred pounds, for apprenticing poor boys to trades; two hundred pounds to the poor of the parishes of Stoneleigh, Kenilworth, Leke Wootten, Ashow, Bideford, Patchull; she also left one hundred pounds a year to the poor parishioners of Letchborough and Blakesley, in the county of Northampton; and many other things elsewhere to the poor and needy by her last Will. Duchess Dudley died January the 22d, in the year 1668^h, in the ninetieth year of her age.

Below the Duchess's Tomb there is a recumbent Statue, draped in grave clothes like her mother, with this Inscription:

Here lyeth Alicia, who, dying before marriage, on the 23d of May, 1621, left to her Mother aforesaid, or to the cause of Charity, a handsome patrimony, to be at the disposal of her Mother, and to be laid out by her on works of piety.

It is a remarkable fact, that when Sir William Dugdale saw the Duchess's Tomb in Stoneleigh Church, which might have been about the date of the first edition of his *Warwickshire* in 1656, there was no Inscription upon it. It is so said at the corner of Hollar's Engraving of the Monument. It is known, that the Duchess was pleased to erect her own Monument some time before her death, Jan. 22, 1669. After her interment in that year, the present Inscription was added in good Latin Scholarship, and is most likely from the pen of Dr. Robert Boreman, who had been Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, having been the preacher of the Duchess's Funeral Sermon, the enumerator of her Charities, and one who had been largely benefitted by her gifts, both personally as well as parochially, and who appears by his Sermon, and account of her Benefactions, to have been well acquainted with inscriptional, or as it has been called lapidary Latin.

The thing to be regretted, as well as surprised at, is the incorrectness of the Inscription itself in two important parti-

^h For 1668, read 1669: a mistake in the Inscription itself.

culars; the one is in the comma, interposed between the words Alicia and Douglassa, which has led to a blunder in the number of the Duchess's daughters; for they reckoned Alicia Douglassa as two, whereas they were meant to be the two Christian names of one daughter, Alicia being her mother's name, and Douglassa being her grandmother's name^b. But this is a minor blunder, compared with that of the year of Duchess Dudley's death, which in the inscription is recorded as having taken place in the year 1668 instead of 1669; an error which, strange to say, has found its way into the Stoneleigh Parish Register.

Notices of Duchess Dudley and her acts, and other circumstances connected with her residence in Dudley House, in the Parish of St. Giles. Extracted from the Histories of that Parish, by John Parton, 1822, and Rowland Dobbie, 1829.

§§ The letter P after the Article refers to Parton's History.

The letter D to Dobbie's History.

DUDLEY HOUSE.

Dudley House stood to the west of St. Giles's Church, and was for many years the residence of Duchess Dudley, and who was buried from it in 1669; having lived there with great splendour and hospitality more than half a century. It originally formed part of the Hospital buildings, and was changed into a mansion house by Dudley Lord Lisle, upon the Grant made to him at the dissolution of the Hospital, and from whom it probably received the name of Dudley House. Lord Lisle lived there till 1539, when he conveyed it, with the rest of the Hospital site, to Wymond Carne, Esq. as the Mansion or Capital

^b Sir W. Dugdale cites a Deed of Bargain and Sale, dated Feb. 8, 1598, whereby Sir John Throckmorton and others conveyed some property at Ladbroke to Sir Robert Dudley and Dame Alice his wife, and to the heirs of the said Sir Robert. (See Dugd. Warw. ed. 1656. p. 222.)

The Author then adds, that Sir Robert had issue *four daughters; Douglass, Anne, Frances, Catherine*. The Palmers obtained this property from them by conveyance, made April 1, 1631, and upon this reconveyance the names of the four daughters are given.

House, late the house of the dissolved Hospital of St. Giles's in the Fields. This Lord Lisle was the eldest son of that Dudley, who was executed with Empson in 1509, and who afterwards became Duke of Northumberland. This was the residence of the Duchess. The House was not pulled down at her death, but became Lord Wharton's residence for some time, with the grounds about it; it occupied a triangular space, three sides formed by Denmark Street, Hog Lane, and Lloyd's Court. P. page 244.

There is an obscure thoroughfare inhabited by poor people, called Dudley Court, said to be named from the Duchess. D. page 70.

PARSONAGE HOUSE.

Dr. Boreman says, (see Sermon, p. 24.) the Duchess purchased a fair house and garden near the Church of St. Giles's in the Fields, and gave it for a perpetual mansion to the Incumbents of the Parish after three lives, whereof two are expired.

This building, which was called the White House, and stood on the site of the present Dudley Court, near the Church, was, with the garden attached to it, purchased by Duchess Dudley in 1616, "who gave it for a perpetual mansion for the Incumbent after three lives, whereof two are expired." And Mr. Cornish, the Minister, having the same year taken proper legal steps for securing the same, there was ordered by a Vestry minute "to be paid £9 15s. which he had disbursed for suing the pardon of alienation, and clearing the title of the Parsonage house." This house, soon after 1690, must have been taken down; for on the 16th of March, 1722, a Committee was appointed by the Vestry to treat with Rev. Dr. Baker, then Rector, for the purchase of Dudley Court, which was built on the ground it had before occupied, for a workhouse. It was, there is little doubt, as well as Dudley House which adjoined it, once part of the ancient Hospital. The Rector of St. Giles's for the time being is still entitled to receive the rents of Dudley Court, where the Parson's residence once stood. P. page 224.

DUCHESS'S CHARITIES.

To the Parish of St. Giles.

Dr. Boreman (see Sermon, p. 25.) says, that the Duchess gave £100 to the Hospital near the Church of St. Giles, to obtain £20 per

annual interest for ever: ~~1000~~ £200 to purchase a piece of land at £10 per annum, to put out poor parish children apprentice, two every year. The Charity Commissioners in 1827 reported the rents of tenements bought with this money, thus: "Houses in *Elbow Lane*, £69 per annum."

*Rebuilding what has been called the second Church of St. Giles,
in 1623.*

In the list of contributors to the cost of this work, the Duchess's name is entered as the giver of £250. There are also the names of Lady Anne Dudley (afterwards Lady Holborn) and Lady Frances Dudley (afterwards Lady Knyveton); each of these young Ladies gave £5.

From this and other circumstances, it seems probable that the Daughters lived at Dudley House with their Mother before they were married. See D. page 100.

Parish attentions to the Duchess.

The Parish allowed her a private entrance into the Church, and this gate was kept in repair by the Parish. It also paid £3 2s. for lining her pew with green baize, and flooring it with matting. See D. pages 108 and 121.

II.

ALICIA DOUGLASSA, ELDEST DAUGHTER OF SIR ROBERT DUDLEY, KNIGHT, AND ALICIA HIS WIFE.

Born at Kenilworth, 1597. Died 1621.

The Rev. Edward Maunsell, Vicar of Stoneleigh, (see Dugdale's MSS. p. 111. II. Mus. Ashmole) informed Sir William Dugdale, that Alicia Douglassa presented two thousand pounds to her Mother, Duchess Dudley, when she was on her death-bed. It is there said, that it was the portion given her by her Grandmother, the Lady Douglas Sheffield, lawful Mother of Sir Robert Dudley, and that when she lay upon her death-bed, she desired her Mother to bestow it for pious uses; who accordingly purchased lands in Mancetter, in the county of Warwick, amounting at that time to £121 per annum, bestowing it in divided

portions of £20 apiece, for the augmentation of the Church Livings at Stoneleigh, Ashow, Kenilworth, Leke Wootten, Monks Kirby, Mancetter; and the surplusage, being four pounds, to the Church of Stoneleigh. This viva voce gift of £2000 to her Mother, was effected by what would now be called a will nuncupatory, or by word of mouth, in the presence of witnesses. The Duchess forthwith proceeded to fulfil her daughter's intentions, by purchasing the Mancetter estate of Basil Fielding, Esq. and distributing the land among the six Livings aforesaid. She then made a conveyance of the land to King James 1st, and enrolled it in Chancery. The King regranted the same by his Letters Patent, bearing date Sept. 11, 1621, to the six Incumbents, thus confirming the Duchess's augmentations respectively.

This was the *Lautum Patrimonium* mentioned on the tomb in Stoneleigh Church, and said to have been given to the Duchess by the dying Alicia for charitable uses. It is to be further observed, of the *Lautum Patrimonium* given by Alicia Douglassa, that Dugdale makes it £3000 instead of two, which, considering the value of the Fielding property at Mancetter which was bought with it, was the more probable sum.

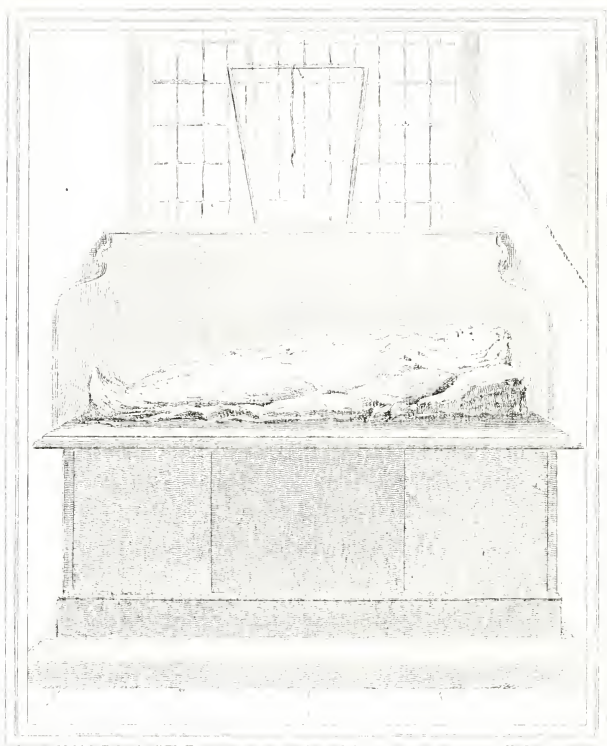
III.

FRANCES, SECOND DAUGHTER OF SIR ROBERT AND LADY DUDLEY.

The shortest way of giving an account of the Lady Frances, will be to transcribe the epitaph on the slab by the side of her tomb in the Church of St. Giles's in the Fields. There is on the tomb a recumbent statue of the Lady in a winding sheet, just like those of her Mother and Sister in Stoneleigh Church. It appears to have been engraved for Pennant's London, 3d edit., but the title engraved under the plate in that work, which is meant to give the style and title of the deceased, is altogether erroneous.

Copy of the Inscription.

In honour of the Memory of the Lady Frances Kniveton, Wife of Sir Gilbert Kniveton, of Bradley, in the county of Derby, Bart. who lieth buried in the Chancel of this Church. She was one of the



The body of the deceased
 was placed in the
 coffin and the lid was
 closed. The coffin was
 then placed in the
 ground.

daughters and coheirs of the Right Hon. Sir Robert Dudley, Knt. Duke of the Empire, by the Lady Alice, his Wife and Duchess, which Robert was son of the late Right Hon. Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, and his Duchess was daughter of Sir Thomas Leigh, and aunt to the Right Hon. Thomas, late Lord Leigh of Stoneleigh, in the county of Warwick; and the said honour and title of Duchess Dudley was, by Letters Patent of his late Majesty of glorious memory, King Charles the First, allowed, and since graciously confirmed to her by his now Majesty King Charles the Second, and she lived and died worthy of that honour.

In the rebuilding of this Church, this Monument was resett up by the Hon. Charles Leigh, of Leighton, Bedfordshire, 1738.

To these statements, an observation is to be added respecting the tomb of Lady Kniveton. That at the time of its original construction in 1663, it was erected in the old Church of St. Giles's in the Fields, and bore the form of what was called a bedstead monument, with pillars supporting a canopy; beneath which the present marble statue in a winding sheet was placed, as it now is, in a recumbent position on the tomb itself. But the account given by Mr. John Parton, (in his History of the Parish of St. Giles's, p. 218.) of Lady Kniveton's monument in the old Church of 1624, is so full, as to require no other description. It is there said to have been

“An extraordinary spacious monument mostly marble, adorned with cartouches, cornish, pediment, mantling, festoons, &c. On the pediment is a death's head, having a laurel chaplet, and the word *Resurgamus* between two boys, supporting a large mantling, supposed to be let down, and cover the whole monument. Arms; ruby a chevron verry, on a canton pearl, a sinister hand of the first, impaled with topas, a lion rampant diamond, three crescents topas, in chief, two birds rising diam. Long English inscription, effigies, &c.”

The account goes on to say, “that the present monument, after the demolition of the old Church, was fixed at the entrance of the north aisle of the new one; but all the ornaments of the monument are now gone, as well as the armorial bearings. But the beautiful effigies of Lady Frances Kniveton, recumbent in her grave clothes in

white marble, seems to the memorialist to be all that remains of the original monument; who, before he dismisses the subject, would make two or three observations on the deceased and her original monument. First, it is to be observed, that before her marriage, Lady Kniveton, then Lady Frances Dudley, as well as Lady Anne Dudley, afterwards Lady Anne Holburn, lived with her mother in Dudley House, St. Giles's; and as parishioners, their names are found with the Duchess's, as subscribers to the rebuilding of St. Giles's second Church, in the year 1623.

Secondly, it will be perceived, that the present inscription, though very full and particular in setting forth the Dudley honours and descent, says nothing of Sir Gilbert Kniveton, except that he was her husband: even his obit is not mentioned. From the demonstration of Dudley feelings, and from the splendour of the original monument, I am disposed to think that that monument was erected by the Duchess to the memory of her daughter.

Neither are these the only reasons for disposing me to think so. The structure of this monument did not only accord with the almost universal plan of the tombs of the great and noble of those days, but with the plan which was adopted afterwards by the Duchess herself for her own monument, as erected in Stoneleigh Church. In both, there were to be found pillars of black marble supporting a canopy, and two cherubs, one on each side, withdrawing a curtain or mantle; on both there were white marble statues of the deceased in winding sheets, recumbent on the tomb as on a mattress. It may be fairly concluded, that the Duchess had employed the same sculptor for making her own tomb, as well as that of her daughter Kniveton. Whether both these tombs were from the carving of the celebrated Nicholas Stone, the great builder of sepulchral monuments in those days, I have not been able to ascertain. Walpole, in his enquiry about these matters, is silent as to the sculptor of these monuments. But in support of this opinion, it is to be added, that the Stoneleigh monument was erected by the Duchess for herself some time before her death in 1669, for it is engraved by Hollar in the first edition of Dugdale's *Warwickshire*, in 1656, when Dugdale saw it, and says, that at that time it had no inscription upon it.

The last statement I shall have to make upon Lady Frances Kniveton's monument in St. Giles's (which Mr. Graves, Printseller of

Pall Mall, a distinguished connoisseur in this department of the fine arts, has employed an Artist to engrave for me) is, that it is totally different from the monument in the old Church. It is a homely, coarse, and cheaply built structure; on the top slab of which is laid the beautiful marble statue of the deceased, the same which once awakened the beholder's feelings, when it lay with all its beautiful accompaniments beneath its original canopy. We are told that it once had a long English inscription; the tablet on which the present inscription is written, is the production of some mason's yard in 1738, and is as mean and homely as the rest of this re-erected monument.

IV.

THE LADY ANNE HOLBOURNE, THIRD DAUGHTER OF
SIR ROBERT AND LADY DUDLEY.

The third daughter of Sir Robert and Lady Dudley was the Lady Anne Dudley, so designated as being one of the only two daughters who were alive when Charles I. gave them rank and precedence as Duke's daughters in 1645. She married Sir Robert Holbourne, Solicitor General to Charles I. Before I allude to the honour conferred upon her by Dugdale in his *Warwickshire*, (p. 329. edit. 1656.) I have to observe, that it was the custom of county historians of those days, and afterwards, greatly to add to the interest of what they wrote, by introducing engravings; as in Chauncey's *Hertfordshire*, and Dugdale's *Warwickshire*, and Kennett's *Parochial Antiquities*. During his lifetime, the engraver, Hollar, was extensively employed; but as such illustrations were very expensive, recourse was often had by the Author to county families to bear the expense of such illustrations, if they were in any way connected with the subjects of them; and he generally secured their support, by dedicating these engravings to their worth and virtues, or as a memorial of their connection with the place; as in the instance of the view of Kenilworth Castle, dedicated to the Lady Catharine, by Sir Richard Levison, that being her birth-place.

But with respect to the engraving of the tomb of Richard Beauchamp, in the Beauchamp Chapel, Warwick, (on which the inscription, as an author has observed, is whimsically interspersed throughout with the Bear and Ragged Staff, no less than forty times,) this engraving was assigned to the Lady Anne Holbourne, to inscribe what she pleased in honour of the deceased, and her own family connection with the Beauchamps. Exercising the indulgence given her by Dugdale, she was pleased to place at the top of Hollar's engraving the following dedication, the translation of which I have thought proper to make and subjoin.

“To her ancestors, very honourable by descent, but by far more so by their virtues, but most of all by the union of both, but specially to Richard Beauchamp, the excellent Earl of Warwick, at once an example of true nobility, family greatness, and his country's glory, the distinguished ornament of his age, for what he famously did at home and abroad, in peace and in war; to such a man, who to the very close of his life was a pattern of piety, fortitude, and magnanimity, and to his worth and memory, Anne Dudley, one of the co-heiresses of his noble family, dedicates this engraving of his tomb.”

But Sir William Dugdale did not confine his courtesy to the Lady Anne, by permitting her to dedicate only one of the engravings; he allowed her to inscribe two more; one to the memory of Ambrose Dudley, Earl of Warwick, who died in 1589; and the other, strange to say, to his brother, the Earl of Leicester, who was not only unworthy of such posthumous notice, and least of all from one who had suffered by this man's iniquitous repudiation of her father's legitimacy. But it seems as if the desire of recording noble connection even with a bad man had got the better of all her right recollections. She dedicated the engraving at page 359, (that of Leicester's monument,) to the memory of the most illustrious Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, son of John, Duke of Northumberland. To him, the dishonest and dishonourable



*Catharine, fourth and last surviving Daughter
 of Sir Robert Dudley, Knt
 and Lady, Anne Dudley his Wife
 She was sister of Sir Richard Dudley
 Son of Sir John Dudley of Brighthelm*

contriver of all the wretchedness which had befallen her family, does the Lady Anne Holbourne think it not inconsistent with her sense of duty to dedicate this engraving of Lord Leicester. We are informed by Stowe, that she died in 1663, whereby the Lady Catharine Levison became the only surviving daughter.

V.

THE LADY CATHARINE LEVISON, FOURTH DAUGHTER
OF SIR ROBERT AND LADY DUDLEY.

This Lady, like her mother the Duchess, and her eldest sister, Alicia Douglassa, was distinguished by the energy and amplitude of her charity, which will be best and soonest attested by copying what Dugdale records of her pious and charitable munificence. See Dugdale's Baronage, p. 226.

“But I must not omit to take notice, that the Lady Alicia, the Duchess's eldest daughter, (who died before her many years,) bequeathed her own whole portion, which was *three thousand pounds*, to be bestowed as this her pious mother should think best.

Of the other daughters, none survived the Duchess but the Lady Katherine Leveson, who, imitating her in these blessed works of piety and charity, did, in her lifetime, rebuild that ruinous fabrick of the Temple-Church at Balshall, in com. Warr., and beautified it very much, for the use of the inhabitants there, and those neighbouring hamlets which lie far distant from their parish church; assigning fifty pounds per annum for the support of a perpetual Incumbent therein.

And for the augmentation of the Vicarage of Long-Itchington in the same county, she gave fifty pounds per annum out of the revenues of her said manor of Balshall.

Moreover, by her last Will and Testament, she hath assigned forty pounds per annum perpetually, to be received out of the yearly revenues of her manor of Foxley, in com. North., for the sufficient support and repairing of that stately Chappel at Warwick, long since founded by the excentors of the famous Earl of Warwick, (her noble ancestor,) whose body lieth gloriously intombed in the midst thereof; wherein also the monuments of Robert, Earl of Leicester, her grand-

father, and Ambrose, Earl of Warwick, (her great uncle,) are placed: appointing that the surplusage thereof shall be disposed of, for an augmentation, to the maintenance of those poor men, who now are, or hereafter shall be, in that Hospital at Warwick, of her grandfather's foundation.

And by her said Will hath further appointed, that out of the revenues of her Lordship of Balshall, an Hospital shall be founded for twenty poor widows, and not married; to be chosen out of the poor inhabitants of Balshall: and, if not to be found there, to be supplied out of the Lordships of Long-Itchington, in com. Warr., Trentham, in com. Staff., and Lilshull, in com. Salop.; each of them for their maintenance therein to have eight pounds per annum, and a gown of grey cloth, with these two letters, K and L, in blue cloth, fixed thereon. As also twenty pounds per annum to a Minister, to read prayers every day in that Hospital, and to teach twenty children.

To the said town of Trentham, she likewise hath given four hundred pounds, to purchase lands of twenty pounds per annum value, for the support of a Schoolmaster, to teach the poor children of that parish, until they shall be fit to be placed forth for apprentices. Also to the poor of Newcastle under Lime, in com. Staff. ten pounds; to the poor of Stone, ten pounds; to the poor of Eccleshall, five pounds; and for beautifying the Church of Barlaston, (all in that county,) twenty pounds.

To the poor of Newport in com. Salop. ten pounds; to the poor of Trentham and Lilshull, (to be distributed on the day of her funeral,) fifty pounds to each parish; to the poor of Balshall and Long Itchington, fifty pounds each parish, for a dole, to be paid out of the first rents after her death.

She hath also given the yearly rent of one hundred and twenty pounds for the maintenance of twelve poor widows, whereof two of them to be inhabitants of Blakesley, two of Patshull, two of Lichbarow, (all in com. North.); three of Lilshull, in com. Salop., and three of Trentham, in com. Staff.; to be chosen by the Minister, Church Wardens, and Overseers in every one of those places; and to each of them a gown of grey cloth, with the letters, K and L, in blue cloth, affixed thereto. Likewise one hundred pounds per annum more, to be paid out of the rents and revenues of Foxley, for the placing out of ten poor boys apprentices, six of them to be of the parishes of

Blakesley, Patshull, and Lichbarow; two of Trentham; and two of Lilshull. Appointing, that the remainder of the rents of that her Lordship of Foxley, after all these particulars shall be paid, to be to the use of the poor inhabitants of those three parishes of Blakesley, Patshull, and Lichbarow.

And departing this life at Trentham, in com. Salop. February, an. 1673, was buried at Lilshull, in com. Salop., where her late husband, Sir Richard Leveson, lieth interred.

There is against the north wall of the Beauchamp Chapel, Warwick, (but formerly under the east window of the Chancel,) a tablet, commemorative of Lady Levison's Benefactions, in the following words.

“To the memory of the Lady Katherine, (late wife of Sir Richard Levison, of Trentham, in the county of Stafford, Knight of the Bath,) one of the daughters and co-heirs of Sir Robert Dudley, Knt. (son to Robert, late Earl of Leicester,) by Alicia his wife, daughter to Sir Thomas Leigh, of Stonley, Knt. and Bart. (created Duchess Dudley by King Charles I. in regard that her said husband, leaving this realme, had the title of a Duke conferred upon him by Ferdinand II. Emperor of Germany, which Hon. Lady, taking notice of these tombes of her noble ancestors being much blemished by consuming time, but more by the rude hands of impious people, were in danger of utter ruin by the decay of this chapel, if not timely prevented, did in her lifetime give fifty pounds for its speedy repair; and by her last Will and Testament, bearing date XVIIIth Dec. 1673, bequeath forty pounds *per annum*, issuing out of her manor of Foxley in the county of Northampton, for the perpetual support and preservation of these monuments in their proper state; the surplusage to be for the poor brethren of her grandfather's Hospitall in this borough; appointing William Dugdale, of Blythe Hall, in this county, Esq. (who represented to her the necessity of this good worke,) and his heirs, together with the Mayor of Warwick for the time being, to be her trustees therein.”

It is worthy of remark, that Sir William Dugdale, (see Warwickshire, ed. 1656, p. 161.) out of respect to Lady Leveson, permitted Sir Richard, her husband, to dedicate an

engraving of Kenilworth Castle to her, in order to preserve, as the dedication expresses it, the memory of her having been born at Kenilworth.

D. RICHARDUS LEVISON
A BALNEO MILES
AD CONSERVANDAM CATHARINÆ UXORIS,
LARIS NATALITH MEMORIAM F.

The Manors of Temple Bolshall and Long Itchingdon, before mentioned, had been obtained by the Lady Catharine Levison, after a suit at law with the Leicesters of Penshurst. They had been originally given (with the prodigality which was wont to accompany Royal gifts) by Queen Elizabeth to her Earl of Leicester; and they became the sole property of the Lady Levison, upon the death of her sister, Lady Anne Holbourne, which took place shortly after the suit began. Upon this death, (which was in 1663,) Lady Levison became the only surviving daughter of Sir Robert and Lady Dudley, and her mother's executrix; and upon her death in 1673, Sir Robert Dudley's family, by his wife the Duchess Dudley, became extinct. It is said in the account of the Town and Castle of Warwick, (8vo. 1815,) that the Hospital of Temple Balshall at that date was in a most flourishing state, with an income little short of £1500 per annum, and that the alms-women had been largely increased in number and in yearly payments. The Master also of the Hospital had received a considerable accession of income.



SHORT BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES.

ALICIA, second daughter of Sir Thomas Leigh, Knt. and Bart. of Stoneleigh Abbey, Warwickshire, wife of Sir Robert Dudley, Knt. who in Florentine History held the title of *il Duca di Nortunbria*, under the diploma of Ferdinand II. Emperor of Germany, bearing date March 9, 1620. Lady Dudley was created, by the Letters Patent of Charles I. May 23, 1645, a Duchess, with precedence of Duke's children to her daughters, of whom two only were alive, Anne and Catharine, at the date of the Patent. The Duchess died at Dudley House, St. Giles's in the Fields, Jan. 22, 1669, aged 90.

ALICIA DOUGLASSA, eldest daughter of Sir Robert and Lady Dudley, baptized at Kenilworth, Sept. 25, 1597, died May 31, 1621, *Ætat.* 24: the inscription on the Duchess's tomb says *ante nuptias*, implying that she was betrothed at the time of her death. By Will Nuncupatory, she gave her mother £3000 to lay out for pious and charitable uses.

FRANCES, second daughter of Sir Robert and Lady Dudley. She lived with her mother in Dudley House till she married Sir Gilbert Knyveton, of Bradley, Derbyshire. Her original monument in the old Church of St. Giles's was of the bedstead kind, as it used to be called, strongly resembling the Duchess's monument in Stoneleigh Church. She died in 1663.

ANNE, third daughter of Sir Robert and Lady Dudley, lived with her mother at Dudley House till she married that great lawyer, Sir Robert Holbourne, Solicitor General to Charles I. This daughter died about 1663.

CATHARINE, fourth and youngest daughter of Sir Robert and Lady Dudley. She married that distinguished Royalist in the time of Charles I. Sir Richard Leveson, Knight of the Bath, of Trentham Hall, Staffordshire. After the endowment of Temple Balshall Hospital, and other Benefactions, she died in 1673, and was buried in Lilleshall Church, Shropshire, where her husband had been buried before.

